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**Sucking face**  
Morris on memorable  
male/male movie kisses.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 37 • 11 September 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 26 years

## Dems dump civil rights

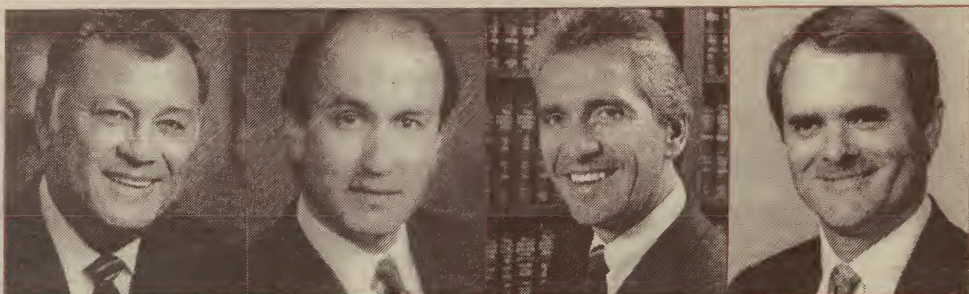
by Marghe Covino  
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

In a move that has outraged gay activists, three Democratic State Senators and 16 Republicans voted to block passage of AB257 Monday, September 8. The civil rights bill would have prohibited discrimination in employment and housing on the basis of sexual orientation throughout California.

Ellen McCormick, a lobbyist with LIFE Lobby, told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "That the California State Senate would deny gay and lesbian citizens access to employment and housing equality in this state is blatantly offensive. Failing this bill sends a message to our community that we should be discriminated against in our jobs and in our choice of home."

Democrats who voted against the bill were Ruben Ayala of Chino, Jim Costa of Fresno, and Steve Peace of El Cajon.

Charles Calderon, D-Whittier, abstained from voting.



Ruben Ayala (D-LA)

Charles Calderon (D-LA)

Jim Costa (D-Kings)

Steve Peace (D-San Diego)

The bill has been granted reconsideration, and may be voted on again this week. McCormick urges concerned people to call, fax, or e-mail the following:

Ayala: Capitol (916) 445-6868; fax (916) 445-0128; district (909) 466-6882; e-mail Senator.Ayala@sen.ca.gov;

Costa: Capitol (916) 445-4641; fax (916) 327-5989; district (209) 264-3078; no e-mail;

Peace: Capitol (916) 445-6767; fax (916) 327-3522; district (619) 463-0243; e-mail Senator.Peace@sen.ca.gov;

Calderon: Capitol (916) 327-8315; no

fax; district (213) 724-6175; e-mail Senator.Calderon@sen.ca.gov

McCormick also suggests contacting a Republican, Bruce McPherson of Santa Cruz. Capitol: (916) 445-5843; fax (916) 445-8081; district: (408) 425-0401; e-mail - bruce.mcpherson@sen.ca.gov. ▼

## SF Redevelopment Commission backs domestic partner policy



Redevelopment commissioners Darshan Singh, Mark Dunlop, and Denny Y. Yee vote.

by Cynthia Laird

Following the city's lead, the San Francisco Redevelopment Commission unanimously adopted a policy of nondiscrimination in contracts and equal benefits at its Tuesday, September 9 meeting. Openly gay Commissioner Mark Dunlop said he has pushed for such a policy since he was appointed to the board earlier this year. The policy will go into effect March 1, 1998, and will affect entities that contract with the redevelopment agency. Because the city's administrative code generally does not apply to the agency, entities that contract

with the redevelopment agency have not yet had to comply with the city's law.

There are two basic elements to the policy:

- A broad nondiscrimination provision, which requires that all contracts and property contracts include a stipulation that the contractor not discriminate on the basis of the fact or perception of a person's race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, domestic partner status, marital status, disability, or AIDS/HIV status; and

- A nondiscrimination in benefits provision, which generally prohibits the execution or amendment of contracts and property

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## California talk show host urges death penalty for gays

by Marghe Covino

Orange County talk show host Rich Agozino on the Christian radio station KBRT-AM (740) reached new levels of anti-gay rhetoric Friday, August 29, worrying gays and lesbians about possible physical violence - and possibly jeopardizing the station's broadcasting license.

During the broadcast of his show *Crosstalk*, Agozino urged callers to write legislators and ask them to enact laws that

would punish homosexuals according to Biblical law, i.e., the death penalty. According to transcripts quoted by the *L.A. Times*, Agozino said, "Lesbian love [and] sodomy are viewed by God as being detestable and abominable. Civil magistrates are to put people to death who practice these things."

KBRT station manager Ed Personius refused to apologize, and brushed aside fears that the comments could incite violence against gays and lesbians. He said Agozino was simply encouraging listeners to follow the "word of God."

"I think it's an honest dialogue concerning Christian beliefs," Personius said. "Rich is simply querying Christians on what the word of God says, and if that is what you believe, are you willing to act on it?"

Rusty Kennedy, Executive Director for Orange County's Human Relations Commission, had a different assessment. "I think it's irresponsible and hurtful and the kind of logic that leads some people to violence against some people solely because they are perceived to be homosexuals," he said. "It's a

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS



## Introducing VIRACEPT. A potent new protease inhibitor that's easy to live with.

VIRACEPT is a powerful new protease inhibitor now available for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. VIRACEPT is generally well-tolerated, is taken three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks, and requires no special dietary restrictions.

Most importantly, VIRACEPT is effective. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used, and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 24 weeks of triple combination therapy. And in laboratory studies, HIV obtained from five patients that became resistant to VIRACEPT was not resistant to other protease inhibitors. (The clinical significance of laboratory studies of protease inhibitor resistance and changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established for VIRACEPT. The virus may still be present in other organ systems.)

People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is mild to moderate diarrhea in approximately 20% of people in clinical trials. There are some common medications and some AIDS-related medications you should not take with VIRACEPT. It is important to discuss with your doctor all other medications that you are taking.

We still can't make any long-term promises, since it is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. But if you've already made the tough choice, talk to your doctor about VIRACEPT and the new options it offers. Or for more details, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit **[www.agouron.com](http://www.agouron.com)**.

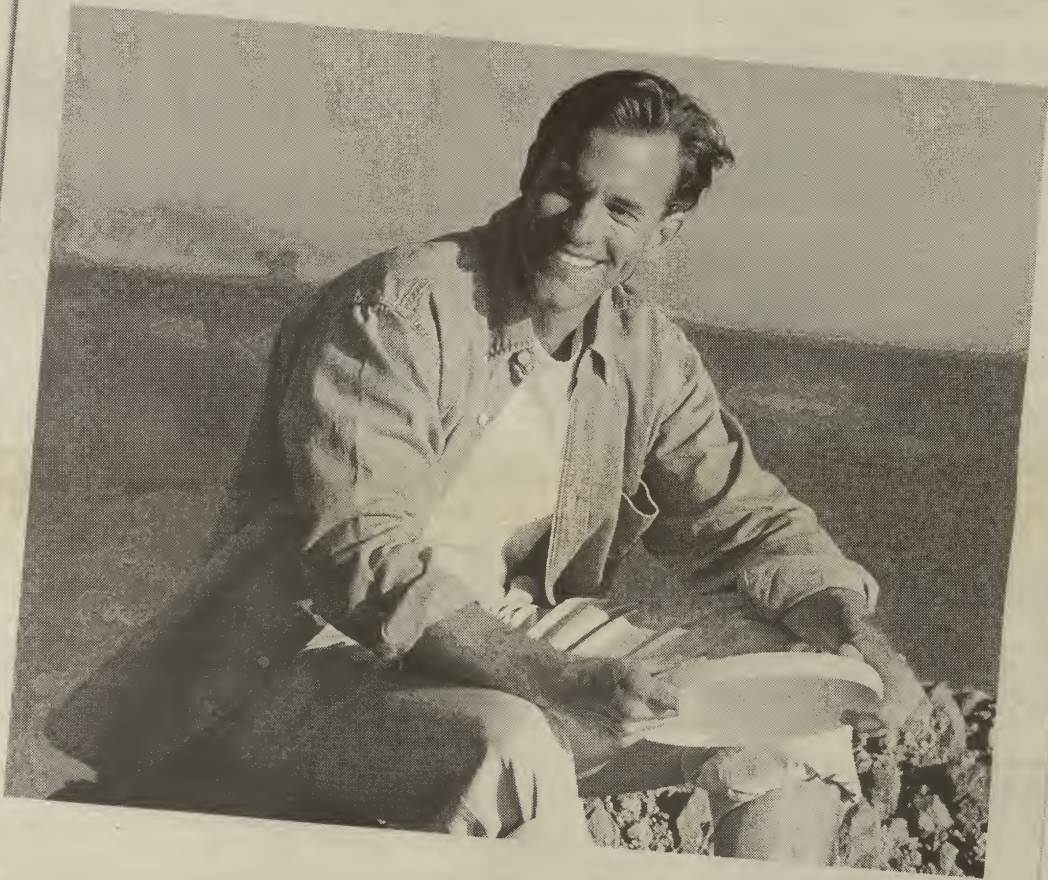
**VIRACEPT**  
nelfinavir mesylate

Refer to the important information on the next page.



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# VIRACEPT

## nelfinavir mesylate

TABLETS and ORAL POWDER

BRIEF SUMMARY: For complete prescribing information, see package insert.

VIRACEPT is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when antiretroviral therapy is warranted. This indication is based on surrogate marker changes in patients who received VIRACEPT in combination with nucleoside analogues or alone for up to 24 weeks. At present, there are no results from controlled trials evaluating the effect of therapy with VIRACEPT on clinical progression of HIV infection, such as survival or the incidence of opportunistic infections.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

VIRACEPT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of its components.

### WARNING

Patients with Phenylketonuria: VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains 11.2 mg phenylalanine per gram of powder.

**VIRACEPT should not be administered concurrently with terfenadine, astemizole, cisapride, triazolam or midazolam, because competition for CYP3A by nelfinavir could result in inhibition of the metabolism of these drugs and create the potential for serious and/or life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias or prolonged sedation.**

### PRECAUTIONS

#### General

Nelfinavir is principally metabolized by the liver. Therefore, caution should be exercised when administering this drug to patients with hepatic impairment.

**Resistance/Cross Resistance:** Because the potential for HIV cross resistance between protease inhibitors has not been fully explored, it is unknown what effect nelfinavir therapy will have on the activity of subsequently administered protease inhibitors. (See MICROBIOLOGY in complete prescribing information.)

#### Hemophilia

There have been reports of increased bleeding, including spontaneous skin hematomas and hemarthrosis, in patients with hemophilia type A and B treated with protease inhibitors. In some patients, additional factor VIII was given. In more than half of the reported cases, treatment with protease inhibitors was continued or reintroduced. A causal relationship has not been established.

#### Information For Patients

For optimal absorption, patients should be advised to take VIRACEPT with food. (See Pharmacokinetics and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION)

Patients should be informed that VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with advanced HIV infection, including opportunistic infections.

Patients should be told that the long-term effects of VIRACEPT are unknown at this time. They should be told that there is currently no data demonstrating that VIRACEPT therapy can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be advised to take VIRACEPT every day as prescribed. Patients should not alter the dose or discontinue therapy without consulting with their doctor. If a dose is missed, patients should take the dose as soon as possible and then return to their normal schedule. However, if a dose is skipped, the patient should not double the next dose.

The most frequent adverse event associated with VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with non-prescription drugs, such as loperamide, which slow gastrointestinal motility.

VIRACEPT may interact with some drugs, therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other prescription or non-prescription medication.

Patients receiving oral contraceptives should be instructed that alternate or additional contraceptive measures should be used during therapy with VIRACEPT.

#### Drug Interactions

Nelfinavir is an inhibitor of CYP3A (cytochrome P450 3A). Coadministration of VIRACEPT and drugs primarily metabolized by CYP3A may result in increased plasma concentrations of the other drug that could increase or prolong both its therapeutic and adverse effects. Nelfinavir is metabolized in part by CYP3A. Coadministration of VIRACEPT and drugs that induce CYP3A may decrease nelfinavir plasma concentrations and reduce its therapeutic effect. Coadministration of VIRACEPT and drugs that inhibit CYP3A may increase nelfinavir plasma concentrations.

Based on known metabolic profiles, clinically significant drug interactions are not expected between VIRACEPT and dapsone, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, clarithromycin, azithromycin, erythromycin, itraconazole or fluconazole.

#### Antihistamines

**Terfenadine:** Administration of terfenadine with VIRACEPT resulted in the appearance of unchanged terfenadine in plasma; therefore, VIRACEPT should not be administered concurrently with terfenadine because of the potential for serious and/or life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias. Because a similar interaction is likely, VIRACEPT should also not be administered concurrently with astemizole.

#### Anti-HIV protease inhibitors

**Indinavir:** Coadministration of indinavir with VIRACEPT resulted in an 83% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC and a 51% increase in indinavir plasma AUC. The safety of this combination has not been established.

**Ritonavir:** Coadministration of ritonavir with VIRACEPT resulted in a 152% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC and very little change in ritonavir plasma AUC. The safety of this combination has not been established.

**Saquinavir:** Coadministration of saquinavir with VIRACEPT resulted in an 18% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC and a 392% increase in saquinavir plasma AUC. If used in combination, no dose adjustments are needed.

#### Antifungal agents

**Ketoconazole:** Coadministration of ketoconazole with VIRACEPT resulted in a 35% increase in nelfinavir plasma AUC. This change was not considered clinically significant and no dose adjustment is needed when ketoconazole and VIRACEPT are coadministered.

#### Anti-HIV reverse transcriptase inhibitors

**Didanosine:** It is recommended that didanosine be administered on an empty stomach; therefore, nelfinavir should be administered (with food) one hour after or more than two hours before didanosine.

**Zidovudine:** Coadministration of zidovudine and lamivudine with VIRACEPT resulted in a 35% decrease in zidovudine plasma AUC. A dose adjustment is not needed when zidovudine is administered with VIRACEPT.

Little or no change in the pharmacokinetics of either drug was observed when VIRACEPT was coadministered with lamivudine or stavudine.

#### Antimycobacterial agents

**Rifabutin:** Coadministration of rifabutin and VIRACEPT resulted in a 32% decrease in nelfinavir plasma AUC and a 207% increase in rifabutin plasma AUC. It is recommended that the dose of rifabutin be reduced to one-half the usual dose when administered with VIRACEPT.

**Rifampin:** Coadministration of rifampin and VIRACEPT resulted in an 82% decrease in nelfinavir plasma AUC. VIRACEPT and rifampin should not be coadministered.

#### Oral Contraceptives

**Ethinyl estradiol and norethindrone:** Coadministration of VIRACEPT with OVCON-35 resulted in a 47% decrease in ethinyl estradiol and an 18% decrease in norethindrone plasma concentrations. Alternate or additional contraceptive measures should be used during therapy with VIRACEPT.

#### Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

Carcinogenicity studies in animals have not yet been completed. Nelfinavir was not, however, mutagenic or clastogenic in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* tests including microbial mutagenesis (Ames), mouse lymphoma, chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes, and an *in vivo* rat micronucleus assay.

#### Pregnancy, Fertility and Reproduction - Pregnancy Category B

Comparisons of systemic exposure are based on the steady-state area under the plasma concentration time curve (AUC) observed in humans receiving the recommended therapeutic dose. Nelfinavir produced no effects on either male or female mating and fertility or embryo survival in rat studies at exposures comparable to human therapeutic exposure. There were also no effects on fetal development or maternal toxicity when nelfinavir was administered to pregnant rats at systemic exposures comparable to human exposure. Administration of nelfinavir to pregnant rabbits resulted in no fetal development effects up to a dose at which a slight decrease in maternal body weight was observed; however, even at the highest dose evaluated, systemic exposure in rabbits was significantly lower than human exposure. Additional studies in rats indicated that exposure to nelfinavir in females from mid-pregnancy through lactation had no effect on the survival, growth, and development of the offspring to weaning. Subsequent reproductive performance of these offspring was also not affected by maternal exposure to nelfinavir. However, there are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, VIRACEPT should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

### Nursing Mothers

The US Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises HIV-infected women not to breast-feed to avoid postnatal transmission of HIV to a child who may not yet be infected. Studies in lactating rats have demonstrated that nelfinavir is excreted in milk. It is not known whether nelfinavir is excreted in human milk.

### Pediatric Use

Nelfinavir was studied in one open-label, uncontrolled trial in 38 pediatric patients ranging in age from 2 to 13 years. In order to achieve plasma concentrations in pediatric patients which approximate those observed in adults, the recommended pediatric dose is 20-30 mg/kg given three times daily, not to exceed 750 mg three times a day. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION)

A similar adverse event profile was seen during the pediatric clinical trial as in adult patients. The evaluation of the antiviral activity of nelfinavir in pediatric patients is ongoing.

The safety, effectiveness and pharmacokinetics of nelfinavir have not been evaluated in pediatric patients below the age of 2 years.

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

The safety of VIRACEPT was studied in over 1500 patients who received drug either alone or in combination with nucleoside analogues (d4T or ZDV/3TC). The majority of adverse events were of mild intensity. The most frequently reported adverse event among patients receiving VIRACEPT was diarrhea, which was generally of mild to moderate intensity.

Drug-related clinical adverse experiences of moderate or severe intensity in  $\geq 2\%$  of patients treated with VIRACEPT coadministered with ZDV plus 3TC (Study 511) or in combination with d4T (Study 506) for up to 24 weeks are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1—Percentage of Patients with Treatment-Emergent\* Adverse Events of Moderate or Severe Intensity Reported in  $\geq 2\%$  of Patients**

Adverse Events	Study 511 Naïve Patients			Study 506 Experienced Patients		
	Placebo + ZDV/3TC (n=101)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=97)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=100)	Placebo + d4T (n=109)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=98)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=101)
Body as a Whole						
Abdominal Pain	1%	0	0	3%	2%	4%
Asthenia	2%	1%	1%	4%	3%	1%
Digestive System						
Diarrhea	3%	14%	20%	10%	28%	32%
Nausea	4%	3%	7%	1%	3%	2%
Flatulence	0	5%	2%	4%	8%	3%
Skin/Appendages						
Rash	1%	1%	3%	0	4%	3%

\* Includes those adverse events at least possibly related to study drug or of unknown relationship and excludes concurrent HIV conditions

Adverse events occurring in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT in all phase I/III clinical trials and considered at least possibly related or of unknown relationship to treatment and of at least moderate severity are listed below.

**Body as a Whole:** accidental injury, allergic reaction, back pain, fever, headache, malaise, and pain.

**Digestive System:** anorexia, dyspepsia, epigastric pain, gastrointestinal bleeding, hepatitis, mouth ulceration, pancreatitis and vomiting.

**Hemic/Lymphatic System:** anemia, leukopenia and thrombocytopenia.

**Metabolic/Nutritional System:** increases in alkaline phosphatase, amylase, creatine phosphokinase, lactic dehydrogenase, SGOT, SGPT and gamma glutamyl transpeptidase; hyperlipemia, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemia, dehydration, and liver function tests abnormal.

**Musculoskeletal System:** arthralgia, arthritis, cramps, myalgia, myasthenia and myopathy.

**Nervous System:** anxiety, depression, dizziness, emotional lability, hyperkinesia, insomnia, migraine, paresthesia, seizures, sleep disorder, somnolence and suicide ideation.

**Respiratory System:** dyspnea, pharyngitis, rhinitis, and sinusitis.

**Skin/Appendages:** dermatitis, folliculitis, fungal dermatitis, maculopapular rash, pruritus, sweating, and urticaria.

**Special Senses:** acute iritis and eye disorder.

**Urogenital System:** kidney calculus, sexual dysfunction and urine abnormality.

### Laboratory Abnormalities

Few patients experienced significant laboratory abnormalities while receiving VIRACEPT. The percentage of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities in Studies 511 and 506 are presented in Table 2. Marked laboratory abnormalities are defined as a Grade 3 or 4 abnormality in a patient with a normal baseline value or a Grade 4 abnormality in a patient with a Grade 1 abnormality at baseline.

**Table 2—Percentage of Patients by Treatment Group With Marked Laboratory Abnormalities\* in  $\geq 2\%$  of Patients**

	Study 511 Naïve Patients			Study 506 Experienced Patients		
	Placebo + ZDV/3TC (n=101)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=97)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +ZDV/3TC (n=100)	Placebo + d4T (n=109)	500 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=98)	750 mg TID VIRACEPT +d4T (n=101)
Hematology						
Hemoglobin	6%	3%	2%	0	0	0
Neutrophils	4%	3%	5%	1%	1%	4%
Lymphocytes	1%	6%	1%	1%	1%	0
Chemistry						
ALT (SGPT)	6%	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%
AST (SGOT)	4%	1%	0	0	3%	3%
Creatine Kinase	7%	2%	2%	4%	5%	6%

\* Marked laboratory abnormalities are defined as a shift from Grade 0 at baseline to at least Grade 3 or from Grade 1 to Grade 4

### OVERDOSAGE

Human experience of acute overdose with VIRACEPT is limited. There is no specific antidote for overdose with VIRACEPT. If indicated, elimination of unabsorbed drug should be achieved by emesis or gastric lavage. Administration of activated charcoal may also be used to aid removal of unabsorbed drug. Since nelfinavir is highly protein bound, dialysis is unlikely to significantly remove drug from blood.

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

**Adults:** The recommended dose is 750 mg (three 250 mg tablets) three times daily. VIRACEPT should be taken with a meal or light snack. Antiviral activity of VIRACEPT is enhanced when VIRACEPT is administered in combination with nucleoside analogues. Therefore, it is recommended that VIRACEPT be used in combination with nucleoside analogues.

**Pediatric Patients (2-13 years):** The recommended oral dose of VIRACEPT for pediatric patients 2 to 13 years of age is 20-30 mg/kg per dose, three times daily with a meal or a light snack. (See complete prescribing information for dosage table.) For children unable to take tablets, VIRACEPT Oral Powder may be administered. VIRACEPT Oral Powder should not be reconstituted with water in its original container.

### HOW SUPPLIED

VIRACEPT (nelfinavir mesylate) Tablets, 250 mg are light blue, capsule-shaped tablets engraved with "VIRACEPT" on one side and "250 mg" on the other.

Available as:

NDC 63010-010-27, bottle containing 270 tablets

VIRACEPT (nelfinavir mesylate) Oral Powder, 50 mg/g is an off-white powder containing 50 mg (as nelfinavir free base) in each level scoopful (1 gram).

Available as:

NDC 63010-011-90, multiple use bottle containing 144 grams of powder with scoop.

VIRACEPT Tablets and Oral Powder should be stored at 15° to 30° C (59° to 86° F).

Issued 3/14/97

### Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

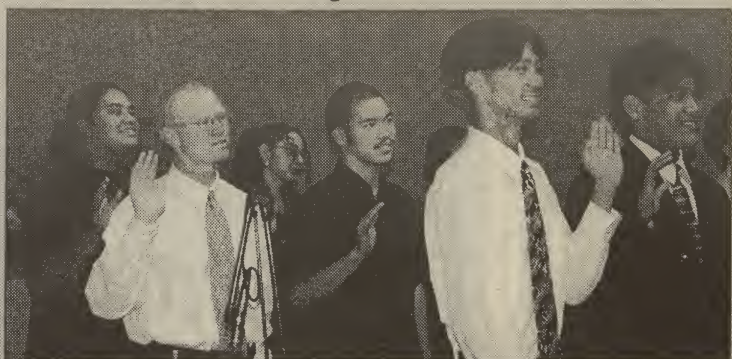
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## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Sweet birds of youth



Two openly queer members of the San Francisco Youth Commission were sworn in by Mayor Willie Brown Tuesday, September 9. At left is new member Dennis Isner, appointed by Supervisor Gavin Newsom; at right is Kent Khounsombath, who was re-appointed by Supervisor Mabel Teng.

## Lesbian teen wins 'Brave Little Girls' contest

Library exhibit highlights girls from diverse cultures

by Cynthia Laird

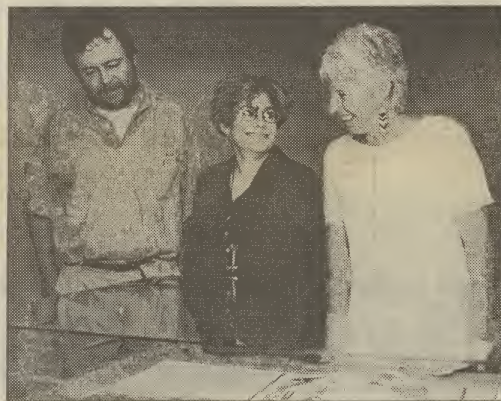
Openly lesbian teenager Gina DeVries was one of four Bay Area young women who was honored Monday, September 8 at San Francisco's New Main Library. The ceremony was in conjunction with the opening of the traveling exhibit "Brave Little Girls," which showcases children's books and illustrations designed to promote youth self-esteem by encouraging children from diverse cultures to read and write about fictional and real-life role models.

"Brave Little Girls" will be on display through November. It features girls and young women from diverse cultures and ethnic traditions in non-traditional roles. The exhibition, curated by the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington DC, contains portrayals of fictional as well as real, historical heroines; all share the traits of courage, accomplishment, and a willingness to challenge the adult world and take risks.

Those themes were also used in the library's contest, where young people nominated girls and young women who demonstrated outstanding courage, creativity, or excellence in their community. DeVries was nominated by Meredith Osborn, 17, who had been in a summer school class with her two years ago.

"I was struck then, as I am now, by her courage and integrity," Osborn wrote in her winning essay. "This year, she came out at her Catholic school. For being herself, for not lying about who she was, she was harassed and ostracized by some of her peers. Yet, Gina did not hide from the fear of others. Instead, she has turned hurt into help, by becoming an activist in the lesbian and gay community."

After she accepted her award, DeVries, now a student at the Urban School in San Francisco, thanked her parents, who were sitting in the audience. "I'm 14 and a lesbian," she said. "I came out to my parents when I was 11;



Openly lesbian teen Gina DeVries (center) at the Main Library.

my parents have always been incredibly encouraging. They're very proud of me, and there are not very many parents like that."

DeVries encouraged parents to "accept your children and love them, no matter what."

She has indeed become a voice in the queer community; currently DeVries is the youngest member ever to sit on the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Advisory Committee of San Francisco's Human Rights Commission, where she's working on a proposition to start youth groups for queer youth who have unaccepting parents.

"Gina realizes that she has been fortunate to have a family that supports her for who she is, and that many youth are cast out of their families when they come out," wrote Osborn. "Gina has an empathetic nature which feeds into her activism, as well as her relationships with others. Her ability to put herself in others' shoes, to feel their emotions, is the reason she is able to do community work."

Librarian Regina Minudri said the "Brave Little Girls" exhibit isn't just for girls, but is another opportunity for the library to reach out into the community. "We're pleased and honored to host the exhibit and hope to inspire girls, young women, as well

as boys, to read."

The other contest winners were: Talia Geliebter, 9, of Kensington, who was born prematurely and is now overcoming disabilities; Venus Rodriguez, 17, of San Francisco, who grew up in and out of homeless shelters, has been offered a four-year college scholarship, and sits on the city's Youth Commission; and Rosalie Ward, 16, of Berkeley, a classical ballerina who overcame kidney cancer and continues to support camps and other programs for children with cancer.

The four contest winners and the people who nominated them each received \$250. The "Brave Little Girls" exhibit is being presented by the San Francisco Library with support from the Three Guineas Foundation and the San Francisco Foundation. Other supporters include the United Way, the Stulsaf Foundation, the Women's Foundation, and Girls, Inc. The Junior League of San Francisco reviewed over 40 contest entries. ▼

"Brave Little Girls" is free and open to the public in the Jewett Gallery on the lower level of the New Main Library at Civic Center through November 30.

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# Thousands march in tribute to Princess Di

by Cynthia Laird

They began arriving downtown at about 8:40 p.m. last Friday, September 5, at 9 p.m., thousands of marchers were still quietly walking to the area in front of the British Consulate, filling the street with a sea of candles to pay tribute to Princess Diana only hours before her funeral in London took place. It was a spontaneous overflow of emotion that enveloped the city as the princess was remembered for the many things she did to help people living with AIDS, the homeless, land mine victims, and countless others.

San Francisco police escorted between 14,000 and 20,000 marchers from Castro Street down Market Street to Sansome; children led the diverse group that included gays, lesbians, transgenders, and straight people of all ages and colors, demonstrating the deep feelings people in the city felt for the "people's princess," and the profound sense of sadness they felt about her August 31 death following a high-speed car crash in a Paris tunnel.

Reverend Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Church led a brief service from a hastily set-up stage and sound system in front of the consulate; its US flag was flying at half-staff, gently blowing in the slight evening breeze. When the Glide choir finished singing, the thousands of candles were lifted in silent applause.

"She's not going to be forgotten," said Alberto Laos of San Francisco, as he stood amid the crowd. "She has changed the world in her own way."



San Francisco children, adults and nuns took to the streets last Friday night to mourn the passing of Diana.

Laos, who said he's a person living with AIDS, said Diana helped show the world that PWAs are people too. "We're all human, and that's what she wanted to show the world."

Williams said the crowd of "all races, and all classes" came to pay tribute to the princess "We march tonight to voice our strength, and our love for you."

He said Diana exhibited empathy when she went on her travels and visited with PWAs, the homeless, the sick, and others.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence quickly put together the Diana march and they, along with Cleve Jones, founder of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, recalled her empathy and how she helped the world see that people could not get AIDS from touching someone who's infected.

"It was Diana who visited a hospice and embraced, without gloves, a gay man dying of AIDS," said Jones, adding that the image changed the world's perception of the disease.

Openly gay city resident Ken Bunch, who put together the memorial at Castro and 18th streets immediately following news of Diana's death, also spoke briefly. "She wanted to know the truth," he said. "As a gay man, I know exactly what she was talking about."

After the memorial march ended, a pick-up truck full of flowers left in memory of the princess was moved to an impromptu shrine for the late Mother Teresa, the world-famous advocate for the poor who died last Thursday, at a church on Church Street and 21st Street. ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# E. Bay Pride to honor Diana next weekend

by Cynthia Laird

The Queensland performance stage at the Saturday, September 21 Gay Mardi Gras in downtown Oakland is being redesigned and renamed in honor of Princess Diana; producers made the decision in the aftermath of the princess's tragic death in a high-speed car crash in Paris August 31. Pete King, executive producer of the first East Bay Pride Festival, said the redesign is being done to be thought of as the people's "Queen of Hearts."

The Gay Mardi Gras street party is the centerpiece of the September 18-21 East Bay Pride Festival; events will take place in several cities, including Oakland, Hayward, and Walnut Creek.

"The princess had an enormously positive influence on public perceptions of people living with HIV in Britain and countries around the world," King said. "Her kind, human expressions of kissing and holding people with AIDS opened the eyes of millions to the need for compassion and clearly demonstrated that HIV was not spread through casual contact; two critical messages during the early 1980s."

The Mardi Gras, described as a combination street party and community exposition, with activities for families as well as for partiers, will be held at Oakland's Preservation Park. The expo, which will feature gay and lesbian-owned businesses and community groups, will be located in the park itself, together with the activities geared toward families.

Queensland is one of the areas designed to celebrate different "worlds" in the queer community; that world, in this case, is the drag community. The area includes an entire city block and uses the old downtown library as the facade of a fantasy royal palace. King said that in honor of Diana, the huge performance stage in front of the palace will be

redesigned and renamed.

Other areas surrounding the park will include Butch Gardens, highlighting the leather community; Wild Wild West, showcasing country-western music and line dancing; and Oasis, celebrating the diverse communities of color, said King.

"It's a unique concept, responding to the desire to have an open air party, as well as activities for those of us with families," said Robert Fuentes, executive director of the Pacific Center for Human Growth, sponsors of the event.

The East Bay Pride Festival will include numerous events throughout the East Bay. It's being sponsored by the Pacific Center for Human Growth and is an umbrella under which different types of events can take place. The East Bay is home to a large lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community, said Fuentes, adding they decided to hold the event because "we felt that it was about time to have a celebration of our own."

## Kick-off dinner to honor Migden

The weekend gets started next Thursday, September 18 with the "Pride Dinner" that will honor San Francisco Assemblywoman Carole Migden. During her brief time in the Assembly, Migden has sponsored numerous pieces of legislation to help the queer and HIV/AIDS communities throughout the state; she is also chair of the powerful Appropriations Committee. In addition to Migden being honored, several local business and community leaders will also be recognized, King said. The dinner will be held at the Scottish Rite Center in Oakland. Tickets are \$100 per person.

On Friday, Hayward will host pride parties at four clubs: Rumors, the World Famous Turf Club, the Rainbow Room, and the Driftwood, complete with drag contests, dancing, and more. There will be no cover charges, and free shuttle buses leaving from the Hayward BART station

will drop party-goers off at the various locales.

Closing out the festival will be "Gay Day" at Waterworld in Concord Sunday, September 21, followed by a party at JR's in Walnut Creek.

Weekend activities will benefit the Pacific Center, which has offices in Berkeley and Walnut Creek and has been providing services and a safe place for queers since 1973. It's one of the oldest community centers in the country and serves more than 10,000 clients annually. The center provides a variety of mental health, counseling, support groups, HIV and sexually transmitted disease, and youth services.

The event is being presented by the Alameda Newspaper Group and the *Oakland Tribune*. Other sponsors include the Horizons Foundation, Pyramid Breweries, and the 7-Up Bottling Company. ▼

Admission to the Mardi Gras event is \$4 in advance or \$7 at the gate; the event will be held from noon to 6 p.m. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Pacific Center and various gay clubs and businesses in the East Bay. The pride dinner on Thursday starts at 6 p.m. For more information on other events, call the Pacific Center at (510) 548-8283.

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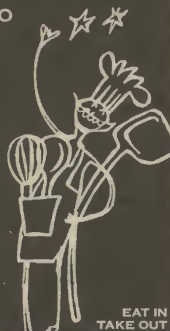
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## Run, don't walk, to GAPA's Runway

by Dennis Conkin

The Gay Asian and Pacific Alliance will present Runway 1997, the Miss GAPA and Gay Asian Pacific Man Pageant, this Saturday, September 13 at the Hotel Nikko, located at 222 Mason Street.

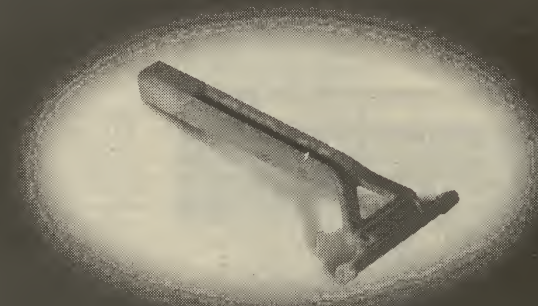
Now in its ninth year, Runway is a major social and fundraising event for Gay Asian and Pacific Alliance. This year's pageant will feature entertainment and performances by singer Nitara Shrinkapabulaya, Miss GAPA 1989, E. Long, Miss GAPA 1996, and the Runway Gold Dancers, as well as the enthronement of Mr. and Miss GAPA.

Celebrity judges for the competition include Lauren Tom, who appeared in *Joy Luck Club*, *Friends*, and *Grace Under Fire*; San Francisco Community College Board Trustee Lawrence Wong; KTVU Channel 2 South Bay Bureau Chief Lloyd LaCuesta; Sandy Michioku of the Asian American Journalists Association; and KTVU feature news reporter John Sasaki.

The annual event is a showcase of Asian and Pacific Islander achievement. In addition to inheriting a diverse constituency, titleholders work to increase visibility of gay Asian and Pacific Islanders within the lesbian and gay community—as well as within the broader Asian Pacific Island population, according to organizer Dino Duazo.

This year's Runway is expected to draw an estimated 600 persons. The gala begins with a 6 p.m. cocktail reception, and the pageant starts at 7 p.m. Royal Box tickets, which include reserved seating and other benefits, are available in advance for \$28. General admission at the door is \$18. For more information, call 863-5798 or e-mail gapa@slip.net. ▼

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# Halloween to become a MECA event

## CUAV bows out of production

by Dennis Conkin

The Mission Economic and Cultural Association will produce Halloween '97 in the Civic Center - and has asked for approximately \$190,000 in city loans to help it pull off the event, according to the agency's executive director, Patricia Aguayo.

The amount the agency needs in loans was announced after a Monday, September 8 meeting between Aguayo, Supervisor Tom Ammiano, Lester Olmstead-Rose of Community United Against Violence (CUAV), Steve Cawa of Mayor Willie Brown's office, and Merchants of Upper Market and Castro (MUMC) President Barry Hermanson.

CUAV bowed out of production involvement with Halloween '97 after last year's Civic Center event, which left it \$180,000 in debt due to a series of production snafus, poor beverage and concession sales, and poor corporate sponsorship.

The event was criticized for a two-tiered ticket pricing structure and a cumbersome gate entrance process that necessitated a police crowd control decision to open the gates. The nonprofit anti-violence agency claimed that decision cost it an estimated \$65,000 in gate revenues.

"CUAV will be delighted to act as a consultant to any effort, but the agency is not in a position to be able to participate in any real way," Olmstead-Rose told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The event was moved to the Civic Center from the Castro last year, in an effort to keep the Upper Market neighborhood safe from the crush of hundreds of thousands of revelers who flocked to the district's streets on Halloween - most of them heterosexual, and many of them inebriated.

"It's absolutely imperative that the city take responsibility for planning the event now," Olmstead-Rose said.

He stressed that Halloween was a citywide event and expressed concern that Halloween could become a "free-for-all" if the city did not help out.

Olmstead-Rose also said that Ammiano, who spearheaded a board committee hearing about the event at the end of August and coordinated Monday's meeting, had done "an outstanding job" in moving the city's involvement in the event forward.

Ammiano said that he planned to involve the city in financial sponsorship of future Halloween events, and that he is confident the event will be successful, fun, and safe.

"There's been a great deal of cooperation. We had a good meeting with Steve Cawa of the mayor's office, and everyone agrees it's time the city should take some responsibility in the event's staging and execution," Ammiano said.

Aguayo told the *Bay Area Reporter* that MECA believes the Civic Center is the best place for the event - and that much was learned from Halloween '96.

"Things will be similar, but we now know what to do exactly," she said.

Among other changes, the agency plans to double the 150 guards provided last year, expand the entrances to five or six sites, eliminate the two-tiered price structure, and have more dance areas.

The agency will keep a security contingent in the Castro during the event, too.

"We want to give the lesbian, gay, and transgender community an enjoyable event," Aguayo said.

The nonprofit group has had 15 years of experience in providing major events such as Cinco de Mayo, Carnival, and Festival De Las Americas.

Hermanson said MUMC continued to be concerned about the safety of the neighborhood and its residents during the evening in the Castro, and that it's time to plan the event.

"We are very concerned about time," he said. "We are all very aware of what needs to be done." While fewer partygoers showed up in the Castro during Halloween last year, Hermanson said it may take a few years for the change in venue to become established. He also said organizers have discussed ways of drawing people to Civic Center for Halloween '97, including a costume parade down Market Street.

An estimated \$50,000 in loan guarantees is also sought for expenses related to security and other costs in the Castro on Halloween, Hermanson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. ▼

# 'The case of the missing file' comes to an unusual end

by Dennis Conkin

The mystery of Dr. Virginia Cafaro's lost patient chart came to an abrupt resolution last Thursday, September 4 - the same day the *Bay Area Reporter* published a report about the chart's disappearance.

The chart contained the medical records of ACT UP/Golden Gate member Mike Donnelly, who was arrested in August with other activists as they protested the removal of Cafaro's patient records from her former Conant Medical Group offices located at Davies Medical Center.

Last month Cafaro was terminated from the group and the practice was shut down by Quest Comprehensive Care Network, which bought the practice a year ago.

Cafaro's records were initially moved to QCCN affiliate Potrero Hill Medical Group at 2300 California Street. Her patients were required by law to request copies

of the records in writing before they could be released. The arrangement quickly proved untenable, and an arrangement was made to sell the original records to Cafaro for one dollar.

Donnelly told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he had contacted Potrero Hill Medical Group after his medical records came up missing, and was initially told that workers would search for his file - but was then told that the QCCN affiliate never had it in the first place.

Cafaro said that when she returned to her new Davies Medical Center offices after lunch on September 4, she noticed a plain brown legal-size delivery envelope at the foot of the office door.

Cafaro said she opened the envelope to find a blue medical records chart. When she opened the file, it contained Donnelly's missing records.

The mailing envelope had no return address and no explanation about where the file had come from.

"I kind of feel like Nancy Drew - or wait, maybe Mike Donnelly should be Nancy and I could be one of the Hardy Boys," Cafaro laughed.

Cafaro said that any innuendo the records were lost in her office or that she was "just trying to rile patients up" was "beyond insulting."

And with the case of Donnelly's missing medical chart solved, Cafaro said she suddenly found herself busy trying to get to the bottom of another QCCN mystery: a female patient's pap smear that was supposed to be sent to a local lab for test results.

"I've called every lab in town to see if they had the results. They've not been recorded in any lab. She's going to have to have the test redone and I have to tell her, 'No, I don't know what happened to the test results.'"

Cafaro says the situation remains problematic.

"I'm just waiting for the first patient whose disability checks get stopped," she said. ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

Should the Victorian stay or go?

# Community center board seeks input on fate of structure

by Cynthia Laird

Sand may be great at the beach, but it's not great news for the planned Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center; members of the board of directors have been dismayed to learn the 1800 Market Street building that was to serve as part of the center is built on sand.

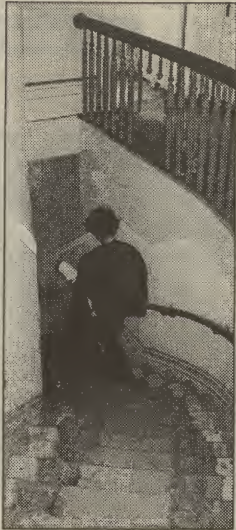
Now the board must decide whether or not to continue with plans to renovate the Victorian with steel piles, which would result in the project becoming more expensive and reduce the amount of usable space by 25 percent.

The Community Center Project's board of directors will take public comment on the issue at their meeting this Wednesday, September 17.

Brochures for the community center state the project "will include a renovated Victorian building," but with the cost of that renovation far more than anticipated — now estimated at between \$1.6 and \$2.6 million — the board is carefully weighing its options. Those include increasing the project's budget to fully renovate the Victorian, and demolishing the structure to make the most efficient use of money and space.

The vacant Victorian, built in 1894, is not a registered landmark, and was not highly rated in a city-wide architectural survey. The structure's upper two floors have been boarded up and uninhabited by legal tenants for years. The ground floor of the structure housed a libertarian bookstore and other small businesses. In recent times the structure has been targeted by vandals, graffiti artists, and others who have defaced it and stripped its interior of much of its architectural detail.

Architect Patrick McGrew, who chaired the San Francisco Landmarks Board for 14 years, doubted the architectural significance of the structure. "The significance, we are told, derives from its distinction as one of the few remaining San Francisco structures from the Victorian era to survive on a triangular lot, a distinction that would not occur to more than a



The ramshackle Victorian at 1800 Market could be history.

handful of Victorian buffs or architectural historians."

McGrew added that "none of the architectural competition entries was actually able to convincingly combine the existing [Victorian] building with the proposed new structure in a design that resulted in an integrated whole."

Architects Jane Cee and Peter Pfau, who submitted the winning design for the center, agreed with that assessment. "All the architects thought the Victorian should go," Cee told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We had to go to great lengths to keep the Victorian in [our design]."

Also, she said, "The interior has been thrashed by squatters," and much of the Victorian's interior quality has been lost.

If the board decides to abandon plans to keep the Victorian, Cee said the new building design would have its benefits. For one thing, the stairway would fit in better with the lobby; and perhaps more importantly, the center's neighbors should be happier because the building will be more level. Since a fourth story couldn't

be added to the Victorian, the new part of the center was designed to be much taller. If the center is all newly constructed, it will be a more level height, she said.

Cee and Pfau conducted the feasibility study on the site with assistance from engineers, historic preservationists, and cost consultants. On Monday, September 8, Cee met with CCP board members and consultants at the building to discuss the study's findings. Most discouraging, she told the *B.A.R.*, was a soils report that revealed the Victorian sits on sand.

"Our original intention was to renovate the Victorian as part of the overall project, but cost and space considerations are forcing us now to reconsider that plan," said CCP board member and spokesperson Scott Shafer. "We take seriously our mission to provide as much usable space at the most efficient cost for the LGBT community. Renovating the Victorian is now a challenge to both of those objectives."

Irrespective of the Victorian issue, the feasibility study also showed that the overall cost of designing and building the community center has increased by 30 percent from the original estimate of \$7.3 million to \$9.5 million, excluding the renovation of the Victorian. Most of that increase is due to the rise in steel prices and the recommendation that steel piles be used in the new construction, as well as in renovating the Victorian, if the board decides to do that.

Because of the overall budget increase for the community center, Jody Cole, co-chair of the center's capital campaign, said they have increased the amount of money needed to be raised, from the original \$2.5 million to \$3.5 million. The campaign is going very well, she said, adding that since it formally started in May, \$1 million has been raised in donations and pledges. ▼

Public comment is welcome at the CCP board meeting, Wednesday, September 17 at 7 p.m. in the third floor conference room at City Hall, 401 Van Ness Avenue.

## Another judge halts Peron prosecution

by Cynthia Laird

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Dean Beaupre removed the case *People v. Peron* from his court calendar for five weeks last Thursday, September 4, and has asked attorneys for both sides to file briefs concerning due process. Although Beaupre denied the defense's motion to dismiss the criminal case against Cannabis Cultivators Club founder Dennis Peron and five others, he said he still has concerns about the case as it relates to citizens' rights to redress grievances against the government through the initiative process.

State Proposition 215, the medical marijuana initiative, was approved by voters last November. The case against Peron and the other defendants stems from the August 4, 1996 raid by state Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement agents on the Market Street medical marijuana club.

Peron and his attorney, J. David Nick, reacted favorably to Beaupre's latest decision and said the judge is ordering the attorney general's office to respond to what they call "major inconsistencies regarding his motivation in seeking indictment in Alameda County." Beaupre is the second judge in as many months to take the highly unusual legal position of halt-

ing a trial at its onset; San Francisco Superior Court Judge A. James Robertson granted a defense motion to continue the proceedings in a civil case against Peron, and a new judge will be assigned.

Beaupre spoke passionately in favor of due process, the initiative as a right of the people, and democracy. "We had a revolution in this country because our government refused to let people redress their grievances ... now we have the initiative process, and no bullets have to be fired."

Peron was pleased with the outcome and said that Attorney General Dan Lungren's cases against him are falling to pieces. ▼

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## OPEN FORUM

## Parading our sympathies

Last Friday's memorial march for Diana, Princess of Wales, filled Market Street (and airwaves around the world) with thousands of mourners, candles, and flowers. It was the kind of turnout that has not been seen in San Francisco since the murder of Harvey Milk and George Moscone – the kind that some people predicted the city would never see again.

It's hard to imagine that anyone (including herself or her stiffly upper lip in-laws) could have believed there would be so much grief over Diana's death. We rarely think of Andrew Lloyd Webber shows, but the public outpouring of sorrow forced us to remember the words from *Evita*: "Mourning all day and mourning all night/Falling over ourselves to get all/The misery right."

Forgive us if we sound cynical, because that's not quite what we're feeling. Yet. But we will be cynical if the momentum of the marchers gets pissed away through apathy. Now that the march is over, where is everyone going?

There are real problems and issues to be addressed, far from Kensington Palace, right here in California. To begin with, a proposed bill that would provide some measure of protection to gays and lesbians is failing in Sacramento because Democrats are either abstaining or siding with the bigots who demand the "right" to discriminate against us. The trend is escalating, and it needs to be stopped before it gets worse.

The way to staunch the hemorrhage of support is for voters to register their outrage with the senators in question. A flood of angry mail is precisely what is called for; since we know Princess Di would want you to write letters to those errant lawmakers, we've listed their addresses in the story about their perfidy, on page one.

Another problem has been spreading through the airwaves of Southern Califor-

nia, where talk show host Rich Agozino is inciting listeners to violence against gays. His "Biblical" approach to alternate sexuality is to condone the stoning to death of gay people. (Space is too short to speculate on exactly what Jesus would think of that, or exactly what Agozino thinks of when he's alone and tumescent, and anyway we think both questions reveal obvious answers.) His broadcast blathering was followed by his station manager's even worse comments: "Rich is simply querying Christians on what the word of God says, and if that is what you believe, are you willing to act on it?" Does everyone see the danger of so-

called Christians "acting" on their belief we don't deserve to live?

People have already begun responding to the ignorant bigotry by writing the FCC to demand the station lose its license.

More should follow suit; anyone who cares at all that tolerance replace violence in our city should sit down and write a letter to make their opinions known. (That address is also listed in that story.)

It's important that the marchers keep moving, now that we've discovered we can. Certainly anyone who can walk two miles with a flower for a dead princess can also write a few words for the rights of living queens. ▼



Editorial



Bouquets for an English rose.

## Boycott anti-gay United Airlines

by Jeff Sheehy and Geoffrey Kors

United Airlines has stooped to unconscionable tactics in their campaign, in association with Pat Robertson, to deny lesbians and gay men equal rights. A simple action on our parts will send a strong economic message to United and others that these actions and policies will not be tolerated. We can follow the lead of the Board of Supervisors, which unanimously sponsored a law prohibiting city employees from flying United, and the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, which dropped United as its official carrier. As individuals, we can join the thousands who have decided not to fly United. We can use our economic clout to end the homophobic behavior of United and their ally, Robertson.

Why should we boycott United? Because United was the first company, and the only airline, to refuse to state in their contract with San Francisco that they will not discriminate in the benefits offered married employees as compared to employees in domestic partnerships. While Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Chevron, PG&E, Pacific Telesis, the 49ers, and even Catholic Charities agreed not to discriminate, United sued. However, United did not limit the lawsuit to airlines, as they could have; instead they asked the court to overturn the law as it applied to everyone, jeopardizing the benefits employees at Chevron, PG&E, and other companies have obtained. Then, when Robertson and his homophobic organization asked to join the lawsuit, United sat idly by, waiving their right to object and failing to separate themselves from the mean-spirited, homophobic comments made by Robertson's organization.

Instead of spending money on equal benefits, United set out on an expensive

public relations campaign. They hired gay politico David Mixner and William Waybourne, formerly of the Victory Fund, to try and convince the community that United is gay-friendly. Mixner and Waybourne are quickly becoming the Ward Connerlys of the gay community. United has taken out full-page ads in gay publications proclaiming "United with Pride," and has offered gay organizations money in a deliberate attempt to mislead us into thinking United is gay-friendly, even though United is fighting one of the most important gay rights laws in the country – a law that has resulted in thousands of us finally getting equal benefits. How ironic that the former head of the Victory Fund, an organization that helped elect our lesbian and gay supervisors, has sold himself to the company that is attempting to destroy a gay rights law these supervisors sponsored.

Last week, at the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association Convention, United and their hired guns reached a new level of hypocrisy and stooped to unconscionable tactics. They sponsored an event with the Illinois Federation of Human Rights, a gay rights organization, proclaiming that they were "excited" to have lesbian and gay journalists in Chicago. However, at the same time, they refused to endorse anti-discrimination laws and have sued to overturn San Francisco's Equal Benefits Ordinance. Then, United's hired guns infiltrated the forum on domestic partner benefits where Geoffrey Kors, the originator and co-author of the law, was speaking. Later that night, they were seen eavesdropping on his conversations and watching his every move. Fortunately, the journalists were on to them; United was loudly booed when introduced. We should not be surprised that United is

using the same intimidating tactics as the Religious Right. After all, they are jointly suing to overturn the Equal Benefits Ordinance.

If United is not anti-gay, why have they refused to endorse laws banning discrimination? If the real reason United refuses to provide equal benefits is cost, as they claim, then why have they refused to offer a package of benefits having no cost implications whatsoever? United has repeatedly refused

to provide domestic partners of their employees with a package made up of bereavement leave, unpaid family medical leave, and free travel on a stand-by basis if the

seats would otherwise be empty! These benefits would cost United nothing, yet they have steadfastly refused to provide them to employees with domestic partners. What reason other than homophobia could there possibly be?

United's hired guns told us that they are trying to convince United that they would gain more money by giving benefits through increased lesbian and gay loyalty than the benefits would cost. There is only one way we can help show them that this is true. All we need to do is fly an airline other than United. Very quickly thereafter, United – and every other bigoted company – will see that equality is not only morally correct, it is financially prudent. ▼

Jeff Sheehy, is President of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club. Geoffrey Kors is chair of the club's Legislative Committee. The organization conceived, wrote, and successfully lobbied passage of San Francisco's Equal Benefits Ordinance and is leading the effort to boycott United Airlines.



Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Organ recital

Once a week, out of habit, I trot down to the Rainbow Cattle Company and pick up a copy of the B.A.R., and I read of bickering and bigotry, of hype and hypocrisy, of outing and outrage. Interminable letters complain of interminable complaints, and we pit ourselves against each other even as the name of the parade gets longer every year.

And inevitably, I am drawn to the back pages, and to the word "uncut."

Let's put our money where our mouth is and unite in one common cause: the end of postnatal male circumcision in America!

Educate yourself about this barbaric practice. A trip to the library will teach you that there is no justification, medical, religious, or otherwise, for this ritualistic maiming of our favorite organ. Our beloved nation is the only one in the world which blindly succumbs to this utterly tortuous tradition.

The societal implications of this mayhem remain an unstudied phenomenon. The psychological scars of this human rights violation carry well into adult life. The birthright of 59% of our newborn boys is being tossed into the garbage like a spent condom.

This is a cause I can get my teeth into. How about you?

Fred C. Kopp  
Guerneville, CA

## The caring princess

The expressions of sympathy and love which members of the gay community have acknowledged to the death of Princess Diana are very compelling and fervent.

In correspondence with Princess Diana earlier this year to caution her against visiting Cambodia and the land mine issues, I suggested she consider a visit to San Francisco in the future to bring added attention to the AIDS research efforts here. As one who has been involved with Cambodian issues for some years, I felt it much too unstable an area at the time, and shortly after my letter to Princess Diana, Cambodia again fell into civil disorder.

Had Princess Diana not met death so early, I'm sure she would have visited SF, and the AIDS awareness subject would have felt her presence.

She was most supportive and caring.

My admiration to all for this outpouring of sympathy.

Marc Troy  
San Francisco

## The killing queer

So spree killer Andrew Cunanan, aka Andrew DaSilva, consummate sociopath, was HIV-negative when he inserted the barrel of a .40 cal. handgun into his mouth and pulled the trigger. This leaves law enforcement, the media, and his friends perplexed as to his motive(s). Funny, I'm not perplexed at all.

Cunanan was a sociopath, incapable of internalizing a conscience or empathy for people or animals. When Cunanan did bad things, he didn't feel bad about it. However, that wasn't enough to send him over the edge. Most sociopaths aren't killers, rapists, or arsonists. Usually they're petty thieves and wreak havoc on the lives and emotions of friends and family. What sent him over the edge was his warped sense of human worth, both of himself and others. Cunanan's short life was based upon fantasy and the almighty dollar. When his fantasies couldn't sustain him emotionally, and he ran out of sugar daddies to financially exploit, he snapped.

With the exception of the cemetery caretaker in New Jersey, he killed men he perceived to be successful. Cunanan wasn't, and knew he never would be. Therefore, none of them should be allowed to continue being successful. Such is the incredible egocentricity of sociopaths. If Cunanan had ready access to Elton John or David Geffen, he would've snuffed them as quickly and ruthlessly as he did Gianni Versace.

Andrew Cunanan lived his life based upon P.T. Barnum's old, cynical wheeze: "There's a sucker born every minute." It's amazing to me how many people, gay or straight, will fall all over themselves over the flash of a little cash and the smoking of a couple of expensive cigars. Tell me, do you really think people like Bill Gates, Paul Allen, Tiger Woods, David Geffen, et al actually sit around restaurants and bars bragging about their money? I don't think so. It's a simple rule of life. The more somebody talks about their money, the less likely they are to have any; the more money a person really has, the less likely they are to readily talk about it to every Tom, Dick, and Mary.

Andrew Cunanan took everybody for a ride, from high school to his grave. At least the people he killed don't suffer anymore. The same can't be said for the living he left behind.

Steven L. Kendall  
Seattle, Washington

## Hung up on masculinity

Re Mike Schaefer's thoughtful letter in today's B.A.R. [Sept. 4], I firmly believe a girl has every right to like what she likes. That said, allow me to congratulate Mike for running a social club for the butch queens among us! He calls to mind the acronym S.T.I.F. (straight-identified faggot), and it's certainly enlightening to learn that we now have a clique wherein opposites no longer attract!

Since Mr. Schaefer has "never met a gay man who is not turned on by masculinity," allow me to introduce myself. Nothing turns this queer on more than androgyny, that lovely blend of masculine and feminine traits that brings out the best of both "worlds." As a bisexual (who is also gay), I find this quality delightful and delovely in both womyn and men. To be sure, I've bedded (and wedded) more than a few mincing, lisping, limp-wristed, swishing, and dishingnelly queens. Without them, there never would have been a Stonewall or even a Queer Liberation Movement.

I've been marching in Gay Pride Parades all across America since 1977 and have been to all three queer marches on Washington, DC. These wondrous expressions of our solidarity were surprisingly devoid of S.T.I.F.s like Mr. Schaefer (thank Goddess)! I happen to dig effeminate men - they turn me on! I also like Tomboyish womyn more than strictly "femmes." But I don't get stuck in a rut with either of these types; I've even balled guys Schaefer might find "butch," but if a man is hung up around his so-called "masculinity," I give him a wide berth. Such men actually bore me to distraction!

Much to my amusement, Schaefer uses the term "homophobia" (applying it to someone else) as if he actually knew what the hell it means.

Whereas he is himself so grossly self-oppressed as to be neurotic, this Radical Faery suggests it's yet another case of the proverbial pot calling the kettle black! I'm almost embarrassed that we still have such oppressive pockets of low consciousness in our community as Mike Schaefer's social club for masculine gay men.

Ads from white boys seeking other white boys (read: racism) and straight-acting/looking/identified seeking same ad infinitum, ad nauseam curdle my revolutionary blood! These fags need to learn how to breathe and then put on some hot femme drag and release the woman inside themselves (as the rest of us have and do)! Put a little sashay in your walk, sistuh, and buy yourself the biggest dildo you can find to loosen up your tight-assed mind and body so they are integrated! Frankly, Blanche, I pity you for the small brain and limited imagination you so obviously possess. Is it possible you had to butch it up for mommy and daddy for so long that you forgot you were only acting? Goddess, honey, I sure hope so! Get a life, girl, or get out of San Francisco. Most of us came here to escape the likes of you and your ilk!

John S. Connolly III  
San Francisco

## What a beach!

Re: "Hundreds of bikers signing up to 'Ride for Life' in October," B.A.R., August 28.

A beach in San Luis Obispo?

Any beachfront lots for sale? (I'll trade you for one in Phoenix.)

Jerry Read  
San Francisco

[Editor's note: Avila Beach is immediately adjacent to San Luis Obispo, in San Luis Obispo County. We hope that clears up any confusion.]

## Cycle of abuse

Walking across Mission at 8th Street, I saw a bicyclist peddling hard into the red light. The thought "he's going to run the red light" was barely through my mind when it happened. I heard the impact then saw the car, the bicyclist and the bicycle become one.

The pedestrian response was immediate: Someone called 911; a woman from the shelter nearby directed traffic. A sickening sense of helplessness filled the atmosphere as the ill-fated man's blood drained out onto the street. The motorist whose car was involved stood there sobbing, "I didn't see him. I didn't see him." Everyone who witnessed the accident assured the man and police that it was clearly the unfortunate bicyclist's fault. He simply ignored the rules of safety and put himself in harm's way. We were all victims of this tragedy. And it was completely unnecessary.

I see it all the time. Bicyclists amaze me with their reckless disregard for motorists and traffic laws. It seems they believe that the rules of the road don't apply to them. This must change. Bicyclists must comply with the laws the same as any other user of the public streets.

Dan Solliday  
San Francisco

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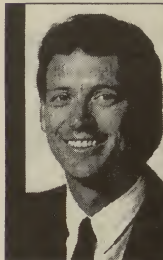
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## Boot camp accolades

A great big Thank You goes out to the many donors and volunteers who helped make the "Boot Camp Party" benefit on August 24 a huge success. A rowdy crowd of uniformed men and women and their admirers enjoyed the SF Eagle B.A.R. racks and generated \$3,000 in proceeds for AIDS Benefits Counselors (ABC).

The diverse group of buzz cutters, boot shiners, drag performers, and other enlisted volunteers performed their maneuvers perfectly. Their good efforts will assist HIV+ men and women in San Francisco to continue to receive free, confidential benefits counseling and employment counseling and placement.

If anyone needs information on ABC's services or if you would like to donate or volunteer for our next event, give us a call at (415) 558-9845. At ease, ladies and gentlemen!

Gary Virginia  
 Mr. SF Leather '96  
 San Francisco

## Quest for knowledge?

I am an HIV physician in practice for over 25 years in San Diego, and I am very disheartened about the recent news debacle in San Francisco regarding the closure of the Conant Medical Group. As a member of the Quest Comprehensive Healthcare System's network for over three years, I have an intimate knowledge and familiarity with the principals involved. As such, I know them to be people who are committed to creating a nationwide network of quality physicians and services devoted to the care and treatment of people with HIV/AIDS. It is only through a united group of concerned individuals that we, as providers, can make advances in the care and services that are so vital to our patients.

The closure of a medical office is never done willingly and without cause. In the case of the Conant Medical Group, it was with regret and frustration that a closure was deemed necessary. Quest has been of tremendous assistance to me in assisting the growth and continued operation of my medical practice. I am sorry they were unable to do the same for the Conant Medical Group but, as a California practitioner, I fully understand the difficulties of the insurance market within the state.

I hope that everyone involved can quickly get back to the task at hand - meeting the needs of those desiring medical attention. Finger-pointing and accusations serve no purpose and will yield no productive result.

Robert S. Smith, MD  
 Director of Medical Services  
 Robert Smith Medical Group  
 San Diego, CA

## Brothers for Sisters

I was pleased that a dialogue regarding health concerns of lesbians was created at the 19th National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference (B.A.R., August 28). I sincerely hope that such dialogue will evolve into something constructive for our lesbian sisters.

Whether we choose to believe it or not, women, particularly lesbians, have fought alongside the gay community from the onset of the AIDS epidemic. I challenge my gay brothers to realize that we also need to care for our lesbian sisters. Although society's views of gays and lesbians have relaxed somewhat, we would be foolish to not take care of one another.

Having said that, the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services' Brothers for Sisters idea was conceived by a group of gay men who wanted to provide support to the women's community. Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, named for Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, was founded in 1979. Today, Lyon-Martin has broadened its scope beyond gynecological care to the full spectrum of healthcare, including outreach services for prospective lesbian, gay, and bisexual parents, women at risk for HIV, lesbian breast cancer survivors, smokers trying to quit, substance users, and individuals living with chronic fatigue syndrome.

The Brothers for Sisters Committee was established to provide opportunities for men to honor the women in our community and in our lives. The 2nd Annual Brothers for Sisters event will be Friday, September 26, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The City Club. This event attracts both men and women and is being co-sponsored by the Men's Associated Exchange, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights. Last year's event was attended by 225 people and raised over \$30,000. We are pushing for an even more successful event this year... not only financially, but strengthening the bridge amongst the gay and the lesbian communities.

Tickets are \$75 per person. Attendees will be able to splurge on refreshments, wines, spirits, a gourmet buffet, and entertainment by local vocalist Ciara. A fabulous evening is guaranteed. For information, RSVP, or invitations, please contact (415) 864-8523.

Frank H. Woo  
 1997 Event Co-Chair  
 Brothers for Sisters Committee

## Soul-searching at the CARE Council

Recently I was appointed to a political body officially known as the San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council, known more commonly as the CARE Council. This group of people are the ones who decide, based on guidelines from the Health Resources and Services Administration and on community input from members of the HIV community and HIV service providers, how the money that comes from the federal government for people with HIV should be distributed in San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin counties. In large part, however, we each depend on our own experiences, viewpoints, thought processes and gut feelings about how to best meet everybody's needs with a limited amount of funds.

On Saturday, August 23, over 30 members of the CARE Council, as well as representatives from the HIV community, HIV service providers and AIDS Office staff came together for the final step in a year-long process of allocating the funds for 1998. From 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. we listened, talked, proposed, argued, fretted and fussed over how, based on the information we had been receiving all year, we could distribute this money so that people would get their needs met. On top of that Herculean task, we had to work under the assumption that we might very well have less money coming from the federal government this year than we received last year. As you can probably tell, it was very hard to keep the larger picture of how to take care of meeting everyone's needs in mind with the thought that my own community, young people with HIV, might not receive enough to get by on.

I was appointed to this Council because I am a young person living with HIV. That is the community that I identify with most, and that is the community that, for better or for worse, I am representing when I raise my hand at Council meetings to speak and to vote. However, and this is what makes the job so tricky at times, I am also a person. There are many things that I have in common with other people, and there are many needs that I have in common with other communities. I cannot, in good conscience, vote on an issue about allocating money just because I think that my particular community should get more, more, more. I have to remember that there are more communities represented at the table than just mine. Also, this money is not going to last forever, and at some point I will need to be able to work with representatives from these other communities on ways in which we can all make sure that our mutual and specific needs can be met when this funding source runs out. This is what I mean when I say that I have to look at the larger picture.

On Saturday the 23rd we all decided, after a full day of soul-searching, to drastically cut funding for certain services, expand it in others, and change the focus of what we are doing with funding in many areas. Whether or not we made the "right" decisions remains to be seen, if indeed we ever can tell whether or not we did. There are so many variables and so many issues involved that we may just have to keep struggling on the best we can. But the questions that I asked myself when I first became a part of this Council remain. What is my purpose in being here? What good am I trying to do? I think the answers to these and other evolving questions change repeatedly over time. But before I can put my head down at night I need to know that I at least tried to do something to answer them. I have been placed in a position in which I am responsible in large part for the welfare of my community. It is also my responsibility, therefore, to make sure that I keep that community, and the community of humanity that I am a part of, at the front of my mind before I raise my voice.

Brett Van Benschoten  
 San Francisco

## Ghetto-ization in Chicago

I was appalled and saddened to hear of Chicago's recent decision to make a section of their city a "gay neighborhood." Along the lines of Chinatown or Little Italy, rainbow flags will be flown to mark the boundaries, maybe they will put up a huge triangular portal as a gateway to this "Gay Town."

All over the country, gay communities will see this as representative of greater acceptance and push for similar designations in their cities and towns. In my opinion, it is fool's gold.

In the same way that tourists go to Chinatown to take pictures and observe a different culture in their own country, sightseers will come to gawk at and pose with the funny and curious "gays" with their strange customs and peculiar talk. This is the story of outsiders in America: Jewish, Catholic, Polish, Italian, Irish, Vietnamese, African-Americans. They have historically huddled into homogenous groups, fearful, proud, protective and separate.

But I believe that separatism is not a way of celebrating diversity, and ghetto-ization does not lead to inclusion and acceptance.

Jonathan Tindle  
 Washington, DC



# Reflections on the Queen of Hearts

by Wayne Friday

Of course, I never met the late **Diana, Princess of Wales**; never even saw her in person. However, every columnist and commentator – and I guess I'm no exception – seems compelled to say something about the beloved 36-year-old woman who died so tragically – and needlessly – in the Alma Tunnel in Paris.

Lady Diana Spencer, whose lineage was far more illustrious than the family she married into, was that rare public person, an aristocrat who became, in the words of Prime Minister **Tony Blair**, "the people's princess." Truthfully, not being a fan of British royalty (certainly not of the current Buckingham Palace bunch), I never gave a lot of thought to Diana until the past few years. She seemed just another glamorous, extremely wealthy, privileged young woman who "got lucky" by marrying "the greatest catch" in Europe, the jaded and somewhat dour **Charles Windsor**, Prince of Wales and heir to the British throne.

What Diana ultimately came to represent to the people of her country and eventually the entire world was, however, much more than just a beautiful, globe-trotting celebrity who "had it all." She was never happy as a "royal" and longed to be free from "The Firm," the royal octopus that had her – and later **Sarah "Fergie" Ferguson** – in such a stranglehold.

The 1981 fairy tale marriage of the 33-year-old Charles and the 20-year-old shy beauty was in trouble from the beginning. To be sure, Diana fulfilled her "role" long before she and the Prince finally divorced. She produced two sons – **William**, now 15 and a future king, and **Harry**, now 12 – for the House of Windsor. That was probably all that was really expected of her – produce an heir and the spare.

Diana, however, was different. Even before her 1996 divorce, Diana had sought a new life and a new role for herself. And as her brother, **Earl Charles Spencer**, noted in the fiery eulogy he delivered at Westminster Abbey in her honor on Saturday, she didn't need a title to do it (having been stripped of her HRH designation in the divorce by a somewhat vindictive mother-in-law). Diana won the admiration and love of millions around the world by seeking out the sick and disenfranchised everywhere and trying in her own way to bring love and comfort to them as well as attention to their plight. Her work with people with HIV/AIDS, the homeless, starving children, and victims of land mines will never be forgotten.

Can you imagine any other member of the British royal family hugging and holding the hand of a dying AIDS patient – or dancing at the White House with **John Travolta**, for that matter? Diana's radiant humanity and compassion was a beacon for so



Lady Dies

many of us. She was truly the Queen of Hearts only because her own was so large.

Perhaps too much has already been written about Diana, so I will not go on much longer. In the end, she was more than capable of speaking for herself. In a recent interview, Diana stated, "I have chosen a life to help people with AIDS, the homeless, and the very ill of the world. If the monarchy doesn't agree with this, then so be it. I can't help that. I really want my young sons to know that not all have a life of privilege, and that those of us who do have a special responsibility." Even though Diana died obscenely early, she more than fulfilled the responsibilities that were thrust upon her while here on earth. She lives on as an example to us all.

## Politics and people

Sunday's *Examiner* did a feature story on Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** that would make many a politico green with envy. It's hardly news that Carole has her critics (all in politics do), but in Sacramento where the partisan game is played fast and hard, even Migden's opponents – liberals and conservatives alike – will tell you that the Migden is one of the hardest workers up there and knows how to get things done.

Declaring that the Republican Party is their "home," **Pete Wilson** met with over 500 Hispanic faithful in LA over the weekend, attempting damage control with those who hold him personally responsible for the GOP's crusades against illegal immigration and affirmative action that have driven Latinos away from the party in droves in the last couple of years. Wilson claimed that fighting affirmative action is not "anti-minority," but rather a re-

sponse to "racial discrimination and the racial divisiveness that inevitably results from the inescapable unfairness of preferences based on race, ethnicity, and gender."

In San Francisco, politics are finally lining up on the Central Freeway (Prop. H) debate, by far the most controversial issue on the November ballot. Supes **Leiland Yee** and **Mabel Teng**, Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley**, and state Senator **Quentin Kopp** have endorsed rebuilding the freeway, while Supes **Tom Ammiano**, **Sue Bierman**, and **Leslie Katz** and the county Demo Committee are already on record as opposed. The positions of Mayor **Willie Brown**, Assemblywoman Migden, and the two dailies will play a big part in the outcome of this one.

Arizona's new female governor, Republican **Jane Dee Hull**, a conservative, is said by Phoenix gay and lesbian activists to possess "a broad streak of social moderation," including being receptive to gay rights. The 62-year-old Hull joins New Jersey's **Christine Todd Whitman** (R) and New Hampshire's **Jeanne Shaheen** (D) as the nation's three sitting women governors.

Incidentally, the race for governor in New Jersey, thought to be a shoo-in for Whitman this November, is now said to be a toss-up. Democrat **James McGreevey** currently trails the Republican incumbent by only two percentage points.

Surprise! **David Duke**, the former Ku Klux Klan leader who made unsuccessful runs for the U.S. senate and governorship in Louisiana, was just elected chairman of the Republican County Committee in a parish (or what the rest of the states call a "county") in suburban New Orleans. Duke proclaimed, "My agenda is in line with the people of this parish, the state, and the Republicans of the nation." No argument here!

Look for a nasty GOP primary fight next June for the attorney general nomination between **Dan Lungren's** hand-picked successor, the ultra-conservative **Dave Stirling**, and Orange County's equally right-wing district attorney, **Mike Capizzi**.

Minnesota U.S. Senator **Paul Wellstone**, 53, one of the Senate's most liberal members, said last week that he's all but certain to seek the Democratic presidential nomination in 2000.

Friends and supporters of Supervisor **Susan Leal**, the leading candidate for city treasurer, are holding a birthday party/fundraiser for her on Monday, Sept. 29, at the Parker House, 520 Church Street, 5:30-7:30 p.m., \$100. Call 979-1520 for information.

This probably won't give Governor Pete Wilson, a straight-laced, no-nonsense, ex-Marine much consolation, but a recent Field Poll shows the button-down conservative guy with a 45 percent approval rating during this, his seventh year in office. Former Governor **Jerry Brown** scored a 42 percent approval rating during his seventh year as the state's chief executive. This begs the question: Is Wilson really still thinking of running for the White House in 2000? ▽

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# Pavlov is dead... long live Pavlov

by Beth Elliott

**W**hen You're Up to Your Ass in Resenting the Alligators Dept.: Can't I get away for a vacationette without all hell breaking loose back home? Does my very presence impart wisdom to our fair Bay Area, soothing the anger of impassioned factions, inspiring them to reason together in amity? As if!

I returned from a week in the Canadian Rockies (beauty, eh?) to find Prop. 209 in effect; Mayor Brown and City Attorney Renne promising San Francisco would continue affirmative action anyway; Renne proposing extending affirmative action to Arabs and Indians; and Dr. King's niece, Alveda Celeste King, lobbying Sacramento to reject anti-discrimination legislation for gays and lesbians because it would "give a death sentence to civil rights."

Pause a moment in Ms. King's honor as I bestow a special Sapphistication Destroying the Village to Save It Award upon her ... and the horse she rode in on.

Oh yes, Ms. King made her stand for principle over special interest politics (I'm being facetious here, if you didn't notice) on the

fatuous and inhumanly insensitive remark? Then observing that, for the past three years, Irish-Americans have been commemorating, and coming to terms with, the Great Famine that killed a third of the Irish in Ireland while her meat and grain went to feed England... not that Rev. Jackson, the great arbiter of human rights, has even noticed or said word one about that all too-real-exercise in ethnic cleansing.

Then maybe I'll proceed to Ms. King's remarks, which tell me (much to my deep sorrow) that the civil rights movement — or at least her particular version of it — has abandoned civil rights the principle for a kind of spoils system. In this spoils system, the practice of rewarding the hacks of a victorious party has been partially superseded by the practice of rewarding the hacks of identity politics: those who can make the most convincing show of victimhood, with more points for emotion than making a case with observed facts.

Well, what else am I to think? There may have been a day when

principles than with scrambling over competitors to get the largest possible share of the limited pie being divvied up by the Great White Father in Washington. This idea of expanding the categories of affirmative action eligibility only heightens the perception that the game has shifted from opportunity to guarantees ... or dare we say "quotas"?

(By the way, if affirmative action is to redress past discrimination, why isn't anyone sorting immigrants out of the pipeline? They weren't here to suffer past discrimination, as in before non-discrimination laws took force.)

You know, conservatives used to say that if gays and lesbians were given protection

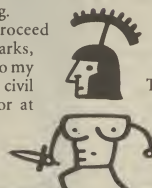
from discrimination, we'd proceed to demand affirmative action; we'd always say no, sexual orientation wasn't the same. But perhaps that thinking is behind the times. Everyone else expects affirmative action and thinks equal opportunity is for chumps — why not us? It's just being part of the progressive coalition.

Of course, affirmative action could make us too popular for our own good. Those sapphic dilettantes who are only Lesbian Until Graduation might, instead, keep stringing our hearts along as Lesbians Until Vice President. Finessing a token male bisexual experience could become basic career strategy, as straight boys decide they might be just one blowjob away from that corner office. But that would be just be part of what seems to be the game: finding an identity that offers maximum entitlement, and hustling it as entitlement-worthy to keep it that way.

How else are we to take Rev. Jackson's implication that nobody has civil rights unless they have affirmative action? That admitting students without affirmative action is actually segregating them out? I keep thinking of the 14 black students admitted to Boalt Hall who bailed. Here women and minorities have been complaining for years about white male students assuming they couldn't get in without special preferences and bent admissions policies. So these lawyer wannabes, with the media proclaiming to the world they got into a prestigious school without affirmative action, like *choke* — saying they don't "feel wanted" at a top law school that just bestowed the penultimate validation upon them? What a bunch of crybabies!

Maybe they would indeed fit in better elsewhere — like at some wussy touchy-feely law school with a corps of wet nurses to hold their little hands, reinforce their self-esteem, and for all we know, wipe their bottoms when they go to the toilet. It's hard for me to think of whiners like this belonging at the law school of the University of California.

Saddest to me is the subtext here that minorities can't make it through equal opportunity alone. When Al Campanis said they didn't have the "necessities," he blew a career. When Jesse Jackson implies the same, he's a presidential candidate. The mind boggles. ▼



**Sapphistication**

**Gee, so much foolishness  
 just begging for rude, sarcastic  
 commentary—I don't know  
 where to begin!**

very day gay and lesbian leaders publicly endorsed Jesse Jackson's anti-209 Golden Gate Bridge march. And continuing — if not raising to new, er, heights — the self-destructive PR practices of anti-209 activists, Jesse Jackson compared 209 — and the flight from Boalt Hall by black students offered admission on their merits, without special consideration — to "ethnic cleansing."

Gee, so much foolishness just begging for rude, sarcastic commentary — I don't know where to begin! Perhaps by letting the folks with murdered relatives in the former Yugoslavia have first shot at Rev. Jackson for his incredibly

including gay equality with ethnic equality might have been tactically questionable in selected legislative campaigns — but if not put to rest long ago, this mentality is dead, dead, dead in these days of gays in the military, same-sex marriage and lesbian sitcom leads as mainstream issues. As we breathe down the neck of the 21st century, there's no excuse for excluding us from any civil rights equation. Or for sending us to the back of the bus and telling us the time's not right for our rights — after collecting our money, our endorsements and our marching feet.

Ms. King's remarks bespeak a mentality less concerned with



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# Bi the way...

by Heather Shirkey

There are as many different perspectives on bisexuality as there are sites on the Web covering the topic. From rants and raves in zine form, to quizzes about being bisexual, to mailing lists and resources, Geek Grrrl has found some of the most useful cyber ways to connect with the extensive bisexual community online.

Before we get too deep into the topic, perhaps you're still trying to figure out where you fall on or around the sexuality fence. Why not take "The Bisexual Test" (<http://www.mcs.com/%7elunde/web/bi/bi-test.html>), created by Albert Lunde? This light-hearted quiz will ask you questions about your sexual preference, sex acts, feelings, spirituality and sex role confusion. The scoring is very subjective, where you can, for a change, earn points for playing dumb or for guiding someone else. If you choose to continue on through Albert's site, you will also find another page called "Bisexual Notes" (<http://www.mcs.com/%7elunde/web/bi/bi-notes.html>), where you can learn about the myths and misconceptions of being bisexual. Albert talks about the existence of bisexuality and what the extents and extremes of being bisexual may be.

Still have questions? Why not join a bi mailing list, where you can exchange stories in a comfortable online setting and get answers from the people who know best? The "Bisexu-L" (<http://drycas.club.cc.cmu.edu/~julie/Bisexu-L.html>) list began, in late 1989, as a means of creating an open forum for bisexuals online. "Not only did heterosexuals condemn us for our same-sex attractions, but our gay friends were hostile to us for our attractions to people not of the same sex. So the Bisexu-L list was founded to give us a safe place to talk about all aspects of our sexuality," write the

founders of the mailing list. It is easy to subscribe and participate in ongoing discussions. Also, visit the Websites of other members, and perhaps add your own to list for others to see. (<http://drycas.club.cc.cmu.edu/~julie/Bisexu-L.html#people>)

One of the most entertaining stops online is at the San Francisco-based bisexual cyber zine (also available in paper) called *Anything That Moves* (<http://www.anythingthatmoves.com/>). *Anything That Moves* touts itself as "The Website for the Classic Bisexual." Now on its fourteenth issue, this paper zine which recently expanded into the digital realm hosts a variety of featured areas including editorials, poetry, "The Bisexual Backpack," "Comedy and Cartoons," "What your Mother Never Told You," a collection of articles, and a library archiving previous issues.

For those of you who have explored the paper version of *Anything That Moves*, you'll notice that the Website remains a little text-heavy, with few graphics. With the exception of the homepage, or first pages of each issue, images are truly scarce. Geek Grrrl expects that since this zine is still settling into its online presence, we can be on the lookout for more fun imagery in the near future.

Perhaps you are in search of a serious resource. There are two resources that offer extensive information on bisexual lifestyles. The first one to check out is the "Bisexual Resource Center" (<http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/>). The Bisexual Resource Center is a nonprofit educational organization based in Boston, whose purpose is to educate the public, to provide a support network, to provide a public forum for bisexual issues, and to act ex-

clusively for charitable purposes. This well-organized site includes an online bisexual bookstore and a healthy list of bisexual site links to other resources, such as newsletters, local groups, mail order outlets, and personal ads.

The second resource site which Geek Grrrl found most useful is GLAAD's "Bi Visibility Project" ([http://www.glaad.org/glaad/Bi\\_visibility/](http://www.glaad.org/glaad/Bi_visibility/)). The site states its mission this way:

"GLAAD, with the support of the bisexual community, has developed this resource not only for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgen-

der people, but for everyone interested in learning more about bisexual issues." Once you get past the slightly nauseating pastel lavender, blue, and pink triangles that decorate the site, you'll notice that it is by far the most extensive of its kind on the Web, including a bi Q & A, upcoming events, history, bisexuality and the media, and a bi reading list. The site is quite developed and updated regularly with the most recent information.

Wherever you fall in the bisexuality spectrum and whatever your level of interest, Web spaces abound to educate, entertain, and facilitate discussions. These are just a few of the cyber stepping-stones to guide you through bisexual issues on the Web. ▼



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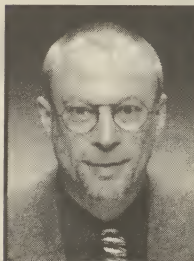
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Links to these sites at: <http://www.sirius.com/~hezaa/bar>.



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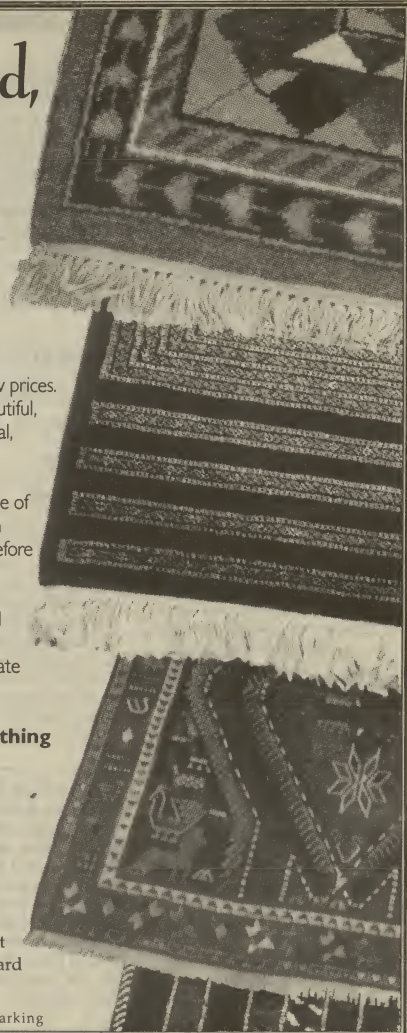
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# Spectrum to honor lesbian minister at Black and White gala next week

by Lois Pearlman

A lesbian minister who stood up to the religious right will be the guest of honor at a fundraiser for Marin County's lesbian, gay, and bisexual community center. The San Anselmo-based Spectrum Center for Les-

bian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns will honor Marilyn Hedges-Hiller at its fourth annual Black and White Affair next Saturday, September 20.

"We're honoring Marilyn for her courage in quietly - but persistently - calling for the inclusion of gay and lesbian people in faith communities in Marin County,"

said John Kirkley, Spectrum's interim executive director.

Earlier this year, Hedges-Hiller, minister at the New Faith Church of Novato, was at the center of a schism between right wing and traditional Christians in the Novato Ministerial Association.

while attempting to downplay the controversy.

"It's not anything worth fighting over, except we need to be present at the table," she said in an interview this spring.

The event where Hedges-Hiller will be recognized begins at

**"We're honoring Marilyn for her courage."**  
— John Kirkley,  
Spectrum's interim executive director

Ministers from two "conservative" churches in the Novato area left the association after the other members refused to expel Hedges-Hiller for her lesbianism and her non-dogmatic approach to Christianity.

Hedges-Hiller stood her ground in the face of the departing right wing ministers' attacks,

5 p.m., with a cocktail reception and piano music by Rick June. This will be followed by a gourmet dinner at 6 p.m. and a gala beginning at 8 p.m. The gala includes live music by Swing Fever, DJ tunes with Lori Z, a silent auction, casino gambling, and a no-host bar.

Tickets are \$125 for the entire

evening or \$30 for the gala only. The Bernard Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, the site for the event, is located at 200 North San Pedro Road in San Rafael.

Last year's Black and White Affair attracted 350 people and raised \$12,000. Spectrum officials anticipate a profit of over \$21,000 at this year's event, according to Kirkley.

A 15-year-old organization serving all of Marin County, Spectrum offers a wide range of support groups, social activities and other community services for gay, lesbian, and bisexual people of all ages. It is currently undergoing reorganization due to diminishing funding resources. ▼

For reservations to the Black and White Affair, to donate items for the silent auction, or to volunteer for the event, call Spectrum at (415) 457-1115.

## Art for Life for Face to Face to come to Santa Rosa

by Ron Lazar

Sonoma County art collectors, enthusiasts, and artists are looking forward to Saturday, September 27, when they'll come together to support Face to Face, the county's leading AIDS service organization, and to snap up some delicious edibles - along with a piece of art or two.

Face to Face's "Annual Art for Life Exhibit and Auction" is the group's critical fundraiser, providing great art, great wine, great service, great fun, and great good. By now, many of the area's more discriminating art collectors consider the event too important to miss - but, amazingly, minimum auction bids begin at only \$50, and there's something there for everyone. All the art, some of which is by artists living with AIDS, will be on display at the Friedman Center in Santa Rosa throughout the preceding four days, so collectors and admirers can get a good look at what's available before the silent auction.

Rick Dean of Face to Face told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "With over 1,000 PWAs to serve in Sonoma



which will feature live jazz by the Ben Hill Quartet, over 40 premium wine purveyors, and 250 artworks," Dean said. "It is chaired by Mike Parman of the *Press Democrat*, and this year's Honorary Hostess is Anne Fraser of KPX."

He also proudly recognized the event's "corporate sponsorship from some major members of the business community, including Kaiser Permanente, the *Press Democrat*, McKesson Corporation, Exchange Bank, and smaller busi-

**Face to Face's 'Annual Art for Life' is the group's critical fundraiser, providing great art, great wine, great service, great fun, and great good.**

County, there are great needs. We provide people with AIDS with benefits counseling, buddies, emotional support, and housing, and find funding for these services in addition to providing nurses, social workers, education, and, in the wintertime, firewood. "Fortunately," he added, "each year the success of Art for Life grows. Last year we raised \$83,000, and this year we hope to reach \$100,000."

Not bad for what started out in 1985 as a "grassroots all-volunteer nonprofit trying to cope with a growing epidemic."

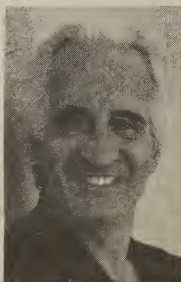
More than 250 pieces of Sonoma County artists' works have been donated to the event, but the list of people who make it possible doesn't stop there.

"Over 200 volunteers contribute to producing the event,

nesses as well, who help us with printing and other necessities for producing an event of this size.

"Attendance last year topped 800," Dean told the *B.A.R.*, "and this year looks like it's going to be a full house again, so only limited tickets are available, and it is recommended to make arrangements to attend early." ▼

**The Art for Life Exhibit & 10th Annual Art Auction Exhibit will be held September 24-26, from noon to 7 p.m. at the Friedman Center, located at 4676 Mayette Avenue in Santa Rosa. Admission is free. The auction will be held at the Friedman Center September 27, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Admission is \$39. For more information, call (707) 544-1581.**

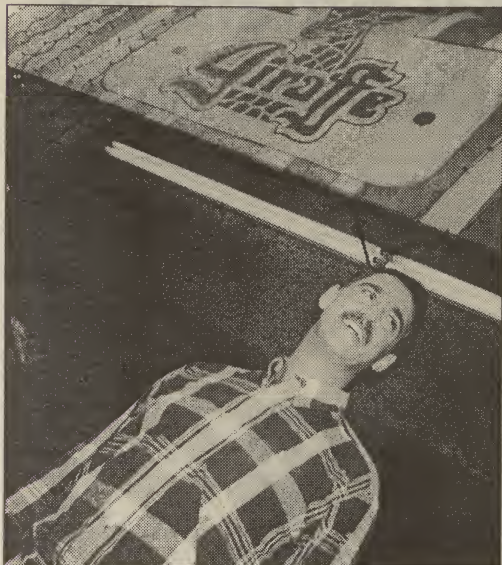


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# Giraffe celebrates 20th anniversary



David Webb, co-owner of The Giraffe

by Shan Schwartz

A spotted yellow longneck is celebrating its 20th birthday this weekend in one of San Francisco's gay hot spots.

Actually, it's a bar named after the yellow beast that's celebrating the birthday. The Giraffe, at 1311 Polk Street, will party down this Sunday, September 14, with hourly prize drawings, memorabilia from the club's past 20 years, and other lively entertainment.

David Webb, co-owner of The Giraffe, said the bar has come to be known as "The 'Cheers' of San Francisco" because of its decor, upkeep, and friendly environment.

When the Giraffe opened in the fall of 1977, Webb said, the Polk Street corridor was in its heyday as the gay mecca in San Francisco. The Giraffe opened as a small social bar and pool hall.

In the early 1980s, the 49ers' entry into the Super Bowl prompted the owners to bring in a large-screen television. The

popularity of that event, Webb said, led to the permanent television fixtures that make The Giraffe known today for being a video bar.

The club now has 13 television sets scattered throughout, with programs varied from the morning news when the bar

guishable from the rest of the bar only by a few steps to a higher floor level. The annex gave the club more room for sitting and playing pool, but most significantly for a dance floor.

"Since day one, we had a dance license, but we had never used it," he said. "But in 1993,

**A day at the Giraffe on Polk: an older clientele gathers in the morning, businessmen drop by after work, and a younger, cruiser crowd comes in as it gets darker.**

opens at 8 a.m. each day, to game shows and talk shows in the morning, to soap operas or movies in the afternoon, to music videos at night.

The bar doubled in size in 1993 when it expanded into the building next door, now known as the "Giraffe Annex" but distin-

when we expanded, we hired a DJ, and now we have dancing several nights a week." Jeff Oteron works as the club's main DJ.

The bar is well-known for its snacks and food that are almost always available, its Halloween parties, and for its sponsorship of the annual "Closet Ball," where some of San Francisco's finest have made their first public appearances in drag.

Webb said the club is also known for attracting a diverse clientele — from an older bunch that gathers during the morning and early afternoon, to businessmen who come by in the afternoon after work, to the younger crowd that comes in the evenings for drinking or dancing.

"The crowd gets younger as it gets darker," he said. "And cruiser!"

## The Forbidden Zone?

Although the Polk Street area has declined from its heyday as the Castro neighborhood has grown and flourished, gay businesses and residents remain a strong presence on and around Polk Street.

"The Polk Street area has had a lot of bad publicity," Webb said. "A few problems were totally blown out of proportion by the local gay rags. Is it because of the existence of a few gay hustlers that we're now in the forbidden zone?"

Webb said the "zone" has more going for it than it's given credit for, and he believes the neighborhood is on its way back up.

"There are great people, nice restaurants, great stores, and great bars around here," he said. "For gay men to relegate themselves to a two-block area [around the Castro] is really a shame. They're really missing out."

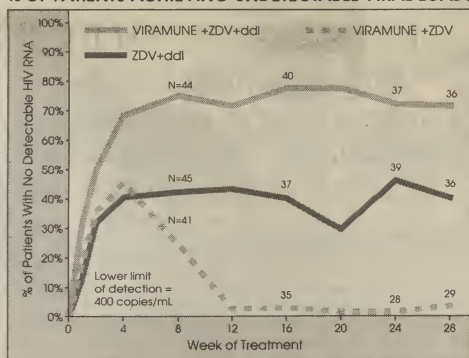
The birthday party has already begun at The Giraffe, with hourly prize drawings all week and weekend long. But bigger prizes — including club birthday memorabilia and a TV/VCR — will be given out during the party on Sunday. Memorabilia includes special anniversary T-shirts and commemorative champagne bottles supplied by the club's liquor distributors.

"I must say the liquor distributors have been very helpful and supportive," Webb said. "They also wanted to make a donation to an appropriate AIDS charity in our name."

Also on Sunday, there will be a "huge buffet," Webb said, the re-living of many memories from the club, and some live male entertainment — a diversion not usually featured at The Giraffe. ▼

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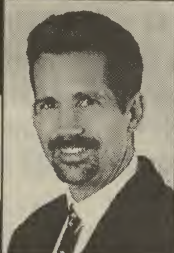
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Forty years ago:

When Great Britain got  
a little greater for gays

by David Bianco

Last week in gay history: The Wolfenden Report, advocating a more liberal legal stance towards homosexuality, was released in Great Britain September 4, 1957.

Before the modern gay-rights movement, the three traditional ways of understanding homosexuality were as sin, sickness, or crime. This fall marks the 40th anniversary of a key step in undermining the "crime" approach, with the release of the Wolfenden Report in Great Britain.

In the early 1950s, British headlines were filled with scandals relating to homosexuality. Several noted public figures, including a prominent politician, a famous actor, and a respected journalist, were arrested and tried for homosexual offenses. These scandals led to increasing public discussion, and for the first time in British history legal issues relating to homosexuality were openly debated in the House of Lords. The British government decided to appoint a commission to explore legal issues relating to homosexuality and prostitution. To chair the commission, the government tapped Sir John Wolfenden, the vice-

law exists to preserve public order and decency and to protect the weak (and especially children) from exploitation. The Wolfenden Committee said it did not feel that the law should "concern itself with what a man does in private unless it can be shown to be so contrary to the public good that the law ought to intervene in its function as the guardian of the public good."

The report then examined the three common objections to reforming laws that would criminalize any male-male sexual act: that such an act "menaces the health of society"; that "it has damaging effects on family life"; and that "a man who indulges in these practices with another man may turn his attention to boys."

One by one the report debunked these objectives. It asserted that there was no evidence to support the view that homosexuality causes the decay of civilizations. It pointed out that "adultery, fornication, and lesbian behavior" are equally threatening to family life and yet were not criminalized. Finally, it suggested that law reform would actually serve to protect minors, as some men who would prefer adult partners may

of greater sexual freedom.

Most of Britain's newspapers also treated the release of the Wolfenden Report favorably, but a public opinion poll showed 47 percent of the public opposed to the report's conclusions, with only 38 percent supporting law reform. Nonetheless, the Wolfenden Report sparked a debate both within legal circles and the wider society about homosexuality and crime in general that ultimately brought about sweeping change.

Some of these changes showed up quite soon after the report's release. For example, in the late 1950s, the British government lifted its ban on theatrical and cinematic portrayals of homosexuality. The plays and films that followed

furthered the dissemination of liberal ideas about gays and lesbians.

The Wolfenden report had repercussions in North America as well, as it was frequently cited by homophile and later gay-liberation organizations as evidence that a civilized society doesn't criminalize gay sex.

In Britain itself, though, the Wolfenden Report carried no force of law, and the ultimate reform of the anti-gay laws it addressed would take a full decade. In the ten years between the release of the report and the Sexual Offences Act of 1967, gay and lesbian activists and their heterosexual allies campaigned in all sectors of society for more acceptance of homosexuality. Indeed, public opinion had shifted markedly by 1967, when Parliament voted to decriminalize private adult homosexual acts in England and Wales (Scottish and Northern Irish gay men still faced criminal sanctions into the 1980s).

The age of consent for gay male sex remained 21 until 1984, when it was lowered to 18. Currently, Britain is under pressure from the European Commission to lower the age to 16, and Labor Prime Minister Tony Blair recently signaled his intention to allow a free vote on the matter in the House of Commons. ▼

Although the Wolfenden  
Committee also addressed  
prostitution, from the start the  
focus was on male homosexuality.

chancellor of Reading University. One of Wolfenden's qualifications was his admission that he knew nothing of the subject at hand — and therefore could be an impartial leader of the inquiry.

Although the Wolfenden Committee also addressed prostitution (and ultimately advocated harsher penalties for street prostitutes), from the start the focus of the committee and the public debate surrounding their report was on male homosexuality. The committee (which included politicians, ministers, aristocrats, and a judge) met more than 60 times, taking testimony from 200 witnesses before issuing its report on September 4, 1957.

The report's conclusions depended on its assumption that the

instead have been turning to boys because they felt safer from the threat of blackmail or prosecution.

The Wolfenden Report explicitly outlined a program for the reform of laws that criminalized male homosexual acts. It advocated legalizing consensual sex between adult males (defined as those older than 21), loosening penalties for sex with those under 21, and shortening the statute of limitations for homosexual acts between adults and those under 21 to one year.

Many British gays and lesbians were disappointed at the focus on 21 as the legal age, since lesbian and heterosexual acts were legal at age 16. Nonetheless, they welcomed the report and the promise

David Bianco, M.A., will be teaching at *Queer 2000: Where Do We Go From Here?*, a weekend college in Los Angeles, September 19-21. For more information, contact him at AriBianco@aol.com.

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## MEDIA WATCH

# The ins and outs of *In & Out*

by Don Romesburg,  
GLAAD/SF media resource  
center manager

Paramount's much-anticipated comedy *In & Out* begins showing September 19 in movie houses across the country. For those who have yet to see the trailer, featuring Kevin Kline dancing to the Village People's "Macho Man," the film is based on the premise that a famous actor (Matt Dillon) wins an Oscar and inadvertently outs his small-town high school drama teacher (Kevin Kline). It comes as a great surprise to the townspeople, most of all Kline and his fiancée (Joan Cusack). The story creates a media storm, which brings a closeted gay tabloid reporter (Tom Selleck) to town to find out the real story. Along the way, Kline struggles with his own self-identity, and the townspeople enact and confront their own assumptions, myths and stereotypes about gender and sexual orientation. Finally, the film refuses to shy away from same-sex intimacy, and features a prolonged, full-on lip-locking kiss between Kline and Selleck.

While the film does employ gay stereotypes, it does it in such a way as to challenge them simultaneously. *In & Out*'s writer, Paul Rudnick, also wrote the hit movies *Jeffrey* and *Addams Family Values*, which explore the same theme. Kline has to examine the ways in which he does embody certain stereotypes about being gay, including being a sharp dresser, having fluid hand gestures, and loving Barbra Streisand. In the end, though, the character discovers he must transcend worrying about what people think he is and just be true to himself. Kline also deals with issues of being a high school teacher who is thought to be gay, and the very real possibility of losing his livelihood because of a lack of protections against job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Lastly, the town has to get over its homophobia in order to see the humanity in everyone.

Please take a look at *In & Out*, and let Paramount know how you feel about this engaging and en-

tertaining film. Contact: Tom Sherek, President, 20th Century Fox Studios, 10201 W. Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90035, e-mail: 5555@paramount.com.

## Media honors Diana's connection to gay community

In the wake of her tragic demise, a number of media outlets, including notably the Associated Press (AP) and a local television station in Portland, Oregon, have run illuminating stories about the connection between Princess Diana and the gay community due to her AIDS advocacy work.

A September 2 AP story began, "In the largely gay Castro district, many San Francisco residents spent part of their Labor Day honoring the princess who championed AIDS causes." It quotes several of the people who viewed an impromptu memorial to Princess Diana. "Many in the city's gay community praised Diana for caring for those with AIDS when many feared the disease," it says. "One Castro resident, who said her full name was Oshara, left some lilies and a copy of the *Oakland Tribune*. She said the princess' view of AIDS was refreshing. Oshara also said that she appreciated the love Diana showed for the gay community. She said she had heard that Diana had gay friends who often helped her escape from the paparazzi."

During the morning news on September 2, KOIN-TV in Port-

land portrayed reactions from a wide array of Oregonians, including contestants at the La Femme Magnifique pageant, where judges chose "the most beautiful female impersonator in the world." The drag queens shared their thoughts about the loss of Diana, and the reporter and anchorpeople treated them as any other "man on the street."

Please commend the Associated Press and KOIN-TV in Portland for their inclusion of the distinct ways that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community loved and have lost Princess Diana. Contact: Darrell L. Christian, Managing Editor, Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, 5th floor, New York, NY 10020-1666, fax: 212.621.7520, e-mail: rgersh@ap.org, Greg R. Veon, General Manager, KOIN-TV, 222 SW Columbia Street, Portland, OR 97201, fax: 503.464.6806, WWW: www.koin.com.

## Gay dogs need love, too

On the September 3 episode of Comedy Central's irreverent animated series *South Park*, the children learned a valuable lesson about the acceptance of lesbians and gay men. The show, set in the mythical town of South Park, Colorado, is a cold, snowy place where the elementary school has a losing football team and the teacher talks to his third grade students with a hand puppet. It's a

surreal winter wonderland where Stan and his dog Sparky (played by guest bark of George Clooney) live. It is not particularly tolerant when they learn that Sparky is gay. Stan's friends tease him, saying, "Hey, where's your homo dog? Buying leather pants?"

The townspeople make so much fun of Sparky that Stan wants him to change, saying,

"Sit. Shake. Okay, don't be gay!"

Stan's football coach supports Sparky, saying, "You can't teach a gay dog straight tricks," much to the consternation of Stan's homophobic (perhaps closeted) teacher. Meanwhile, Sparky runs away, and finds Big Gay Al's Big Gay

Animal Retreat, where he's welcomed with open arms to join other animals who have been rejected. Big Gay Al is an effeminate man with a heart of gold, who has opened his home to these rejected beasts, both domestic and wild.

When Stan finds Sparky is missing, he refuses to quarterback for the team, and instead sets out to find his beloved dog. He finds Big Gay Al, and learns about how there have been gay people throughout history on "Big Gay Al's Big Gay Boatride." Stan takes Sparky back to South Park, takes over the game, and while not winning, beats the point spread. When the announcer asks him to make a speech, he says, "Gay is okay!" stunning the audience. He takes them all to Big Gay Al's,

where many find pets they thought they had lost forever. Big Gay Al leaves, knowing that his work is done.

*South Park* plays fast and loose with many themes, but the over-the-top portrayals of both Big Gay Al and the homo-ignorant townspeople not only make the audience laugh out loud at their absurdity, but also, in a subversive way, make them examine their prejudices in the light of humor.

Please thank Comedy Central for airing this show, and for taking the risk of making a show that truly stretches the boundaries of both comedy... and taste. Contact: Doug Herzog, President and CEO, Comedy Central, 1775 Broadway, New York, NY 10019, fax 212.767.8592, e-mail dherzog@comcentral.com. ▼

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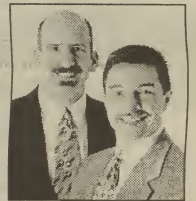
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# Chateau Agape robber asks: 'Are you queer?'

by Dennis Conkin

The son of two well-known San Francisco mental health and drug-treatment pioneers was terrorized and robbed during a Labor Day incident at the site of Chateau Agape, a now-vacant Guerrero Street residential care facility for chronically mentally ill adults, including people with HIV infection.

Camlo Looper, the son of Leroy and Kathy Looper, told the *Bay Area Reporter* the unknown burglar had threatened to kill him if he didn't cooperate during the 3 a.m. attack — and had also demanded to know if the 20-year-old City College student was a "queer."

Looper was spending the night in a sleeping bag in a downstairs foyer of the local landmark and National Historic Register site, because insurance stipulations re-

quire the building must be occupied after construction to repair damages of a 1994 fire was completed in February [see related story, *opposite page*].

"I kind of woke up and was about to turn over and fluff my pillow when I kind of smelled something," Looper said. "I didn't know what it was. It just registered in my brain. It was the smell of someone else, who smelled like they had been smoking and drinking and hadn't taken a bath."

Looper told the B.A.R. that he "heard a rustle," turned around, and saw the intruder standing near his head with his back turned. As Looper got up and slowly tried to back out of the room, the burglar turned his head and saw him trying to flee.

"He shined a police-type flashlight in my eyes and said that he had a weapon and that he would kill me if I didn't lay down and co-

operate. He said not to look at him — that he would not hesitate to kill me if I looked at him."

When the intruder asked if he had any money, Looper said he had \$20 in his nearby pants, reached into them, and handed the man his cash. The robber then noticed the ring on Looper's right hand and ordered him to turn it over.

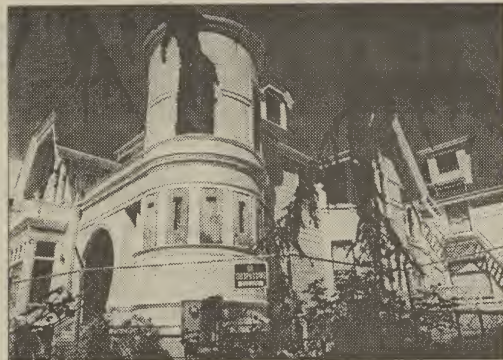
"It was my school ring. It had my name on it," Looper said.

"He asked if I had any credit cards. I said no, and he didn't seem to believe me. I was getting worried at that point that he thought I was lying to him," he said. "Then he asked if there was food in the house."

The only food Looper had in the refrigerator was some chicken — which the intruder also took.

Looper said he wanted to run, but he wasn't at all sure of his chances.

"It was really a vulnerable po-



The troubled Chateau Agape residential facility on Guerrero St.

sition to be in," he said. "I was worried about running out of my house in my underwear for help. And I didn't feel I could outrun someone in his shoes."

## The queer question

Already terrorized by the robber's repeated threats that he would be killed if he didn't cooperate, Looper's situation took on a more sinister tone when the assailant demanded to know if he was "queer."

Looper, who is heterosexual, told the B.A.R., "I didn't know what to say. Any response I gave him could have been a problem. If I were to say yes, would I be the victim of a gay-bashing? If I said no, would he believe me? I just said no, then he asked if I had a girlfriend. I don't, but I said yes."

"He said, 'I'll be back for her later,'" Looper recounted.

After taking Looper into several areas of the house, each time telling him to lie face-down, the robber finally demanded to know the location of the exits in the house, and then ordered Looper out of the house by a wheelchair ramp and told him to lie face down for the last time.

"He said that if I got up or yelled, he would kill me," Looper said. "I heard him step inside the house, heard the door close, and him trip over something. He was trying to lock me out of the house."

Worried that the robber might try to knock him unconscious with the flashlight, Looper decided to bolt.

"I decided to take my chance, and I ran through the neighborhood yelling for help," Looper said.

Only one local resident came to Looper's assistance.

Police responded to the scene, but Looper told the *Bay Area Reporter* that as he was talking to the officer, he saw two men suddenly appear on Guerrero Street from the area of the Chateau carrying a large duffel bag — however, when he pointed out the suspicious individuals to the officer, she indicated she had no basis to stop them.

Looper said that when he pointed to the individuals, one of the men made a "who me" gesture — and the pair quickly turned a street corner and disappeared.

A police report has been filed in the incident, and the case has been assigned to the Robbery Bureau.

## The scariest time

Looper suffered scratches and lost his checkbook and \$20 cash in the robbery. The incident is the most serious to occur since the property has been unoccupied, and the Loopers are now saying that enough is enough.

"This is not the first time that Camlo has been endangered by burglars at the Chateau — only the scariest," Kathy Looper wrote in a September 1 letter to Mayor Willie Brown. "We have also had to chase away unsavory characters from the premises during the day. These problems occur because, despite our presence, the house appears inactive and vacant."

Ironically, the burglar entered the Chateau from a side passage of an adjoining house that belongs to one of Brown's aides.

"The city's failure to start a program at the Chateau, or to fully occupy it, has thus created an

next page ►

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VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> therapy must be initiated with a 14-day lead-in period of 200 mg/day, which has been shown to reduce the frequency of rash. Dose escalation should not occur if rash is observed during this lead-in period until the rash has resolved. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

**PRECAUTIONS:** General: When administering VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> as part of an antiretroviral treatment regimen, the complete product information for each therapeutic component should be consulted before initiation of treatment.

While nevirapine is extensively metabolized by the liver and nevirapine metabolites are extensively eliminated by the kidney, the pharmacokinetics of nevirapine have not been evaluated in patients with either hepatic or renal dysfunction. Therefore, VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> should be used with caution in these patient populations.

Abnormal liver function tests have been reported with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> some in the first few weeks of therapy, including cases of hepatitis. VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> administration should be interrupted in patients experiencing moderate or severe liver function test abnormalities until liver function tests return to baseline values. VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> treatment should be permanently discontinued if liver function abnormalities recur on readministration.

**Drug Interactions:** Although clinical studies have not been conducted, induction of CYP3A by nevirapine may result in lower plasma concentrations of other concomitantly administered drugs that are extensively metabolized by CYP3A. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY.) Thus, if a patient has been stabilized on a dosage regimen for a drug metabolized by CYP3A, and begins treatment with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>, dose adjustments may be necessary.

**Rifampin/Rifabutin:** There are insufficient data to assess whether dose adjustments are necessary when nevirapine and rifampin or rifabutin are coadministered. Therefore, these drugs should only be used in combination if clearly indicated and with careful monitoring.

**Protease Inhibitors:** Nevirapine may decrease plasma concentrations of protease inhibitors. Therefore, until clinical data are available that evaluate the need for dose adjustments, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>.

**Oral Contraceptives:** There are no clinical data on the effects of nevirapine on the pharmacokinetics of oral contraceptives. Nevirapine may decrease plasma concentrations of oral contraceptives (also other hormonal contraceptives); therefore, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>.

**Information for Patients:** Patients should be informed that VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> is not a cure for HIV-1 infection, and that they may continue to experience illnesses associated with advanced HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. Treatment with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> has not been shown to reduce the incidence or frequency of such illnesses, and patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>.

Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> are unknown at this time. They should also be informed that VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV-1 to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be instructed that the major toxicity of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> is rash and should be advised to promptly notify their physician of any rash. The majority of rashes associated with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> occur within the first 6 weeks of initiation of therapy. Therefore, patients should be monitored carefully for the appearance of rash during this period. Patients should be instructed that dose escalation is not to occur if any rash occurs during the two-week lead-in dosing period, until the rash resolves. Any patient experiencing severe rash or a rash accompanied by constitutional symptoms such as fever, blistering, oral lesions, conjunctivitis, swelling, muscle or joint aches, or general malaise should discontinue medication and consult a physician. Patients should be informed to take VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> every day as prescribed. Patients should not alter the dose without consulting their doctor. If a dose is missed, patients should take the next dose as soon as possible. However, if a dose is skipped, patients should not double the next dose.

VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> may interact with some drugs; therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other medications.

Patients should be instructed that oral contraceptives and other hormonal methods of birth control should not be used as a method of contraception in women taking VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** Long-term carcinogenicity studies of nevirapine in animals are currently in progress. In genetic toxicology assays, nevirapine showed no evidence of mutagenic or clastogenic activity in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays including microbial assays for gene mutation (Ames; Salmonella strains and *E. coli*), mammalian cell gene mutation assays (CHO/HGPRT), cytogenetic assays using a Chinese hamster ovary cell line and a mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay following oral administration. In reproductive toxicology studies, evidence of impaired fertility was seen in female rats at doses providing systemic exposure, based on AUC, approximately equivalent to that provided with the recommended clinical dose of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>.

**Pregnancy:** Pregnancy Category C. No observable teratogenicity was detected in reproductive studies performed in pregnant rats and rabbits. In rats, a significant decrease in fetal body weight occurred at doses providing systemic exposure approximately 50% higher, based on AUC, than that seen at the recommended human clinical dose. The maternal and developmental no-observable-effect level dosages in rats and rabbits produced systemic exposures approximately equivalent to or approximately 50% higher, respectively, than those seen at the recommended daily human dose, based on AUC. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Nursing Mothers:** Preliminary results from an ongoing pharmacokinetic study (ACTG 25D) of 10 HIV-1-infected pregnant women who were administered a single oral dose of 100 or 200 mg VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> at a median of 5.8 hours before delivery, indicate that nevirapine readily crosses the placenta and is found in breast milk. Consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV, mothers should discontinue nursing if they are receiving VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>.

**Pediatric Use:** Safety and effectiveness of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> in pediatric patients have not been established. VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> has been studied in two open-label, uncontrolled trials (BI 882, BI 892) in 37 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients with a median age of 0.9 years (range: 0.1 to 15 years) who were treated for a median duration of 20.7 months. Seven patients developed rashes while receiving VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>. In an ongoing, controlled trial of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> combination therapy in HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (ACTG 245), one of approximately 288 patients with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> experienced Stevens-Johnson syndrome. Because there are no data on multi-dose pharmacokinetics in children, no recommendation on dosing can be made. Based on single-dose pharmacokinetics in 9 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (age 9 mos. to 14 years) who were administered nevirapine in a suspension formulation, it appears that oral clearance is approximately 2-fold greater in children when compared to adults.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** The most frequently reported adverse events related to VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> therapy were rash, fever, nausea, headache, and abnormal liver function tests.

The major clinical toxicity of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> is rash, with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>-attributable rash occurring in 17% of patients in combination regimens in Phase III/II controlled studies. Thirty-seven percent of patients treated with VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> experienced rash compared with 20% of patients treated in control groups of either ZDV+ddI or ZDV alone (Table 1). Severe or life-threatening rash occurred in 7.6% of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>-treated patients compared with 1.2% of patients treated in the control groups. Rashes are usually mild to moderate, maculopapular/erythematous cutaneous eruptions, with or without pruritus, located on the trunk, face and extremities. The majority of severe rashes occurred within the first 28 days of treatment; 25% of the patients with severe rashes required hospitalization, and one patient required surgical intervention. All patients recovered. Overall, 7% of patients discontinued VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> due to rash.

Table 1: Percentage of patients with rashes in controlled trials<sup>a</sup>

	ACTG 241 <sup>b</sup>		BI 1037		BI 1011		COMBINED DATA	
	NVP+ZDV+ddI	ZDV+ddI	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP	CONTROL
n	197	201	30	30	25	24	252	255
Rash events of all Grades and all causality	39.6%	23.9%	26.7%	6.7%	32.0%	4.2%	37.3%	20.0%
Grade 3 or 4 rash events, all causality	8.1%	1.5%	3.3%	0%	8.0%	0%	7.6%	1.2%

<sup>a</sup> At recommended dose of one 200 mg tablet daily for the first 14 days followed by one 200 mg tablet twice daily.

<sup>b</sup> Trial ACTG 241 was designed to report Grade 3/4 (severe or life-threatening) events, except for several pre-specified events including rash for which all grades are reported.

Table 2 lists treatment-related clinical adverse events that occurred in patients receiving VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> in ACTG 241 and in Trials BI 1037 and BI 1011.

Table 2: Comparative Incidence of Selected Drug-Related Events in Controlled Trials

	ACTG 241		Trial BI 1037 and BI 1011	
	Grade 3/4 events		All severities	
	NVP+ZDV+ddI	ZDV+ddI	NVP+ZDV	ZDV alone
Number of patients	197	201	55	30
Overall incidence of related adverse events	31%	23%	42%	33%
Fever	8	2	20	3
Rash	3	3	11	3
Nausea	5	4	9	3
Headache	3	3	11	0
Diarrhea	2	2	0	0
Abdominal pain	1	2	2	0
Ulcerative stomatitis	0	0	4	0
Peripheral neuropathy	0	2	0	0
Parosmia	1	0	2	0
Myalgia	1	0	2	7
Hepatitis	1	0	4	0

**Laboratory Abnormalities:** Table 3 summarizes marked laboratory abnormalities occurring in three controlled studies.

Table 3: Percentage of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities

	Data combined for controlled trials ACTG 241, BI 1037 & BI 1011	
	VIRAMUNE <sup>®</sup> n=252	Control n=255
Hematology		
Decreased Hg (<8.0 g/dL)	1.2%	2.0%
Decreased platelets (<50,000/mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.8	0.8
Decreased neutrophils (<750/mm <sup>3</sup> )	11.1	10.2
Blood chemistry		
Increased ALT (>250 U/L) <sup>a</sup>	3.0	3.5
Increased AST (>250 U/L)	2.4	2.4
Increased GGT (>450 U/L)	2.4	1.2
Increased total bilirubin (>2.5 mg/dL)	0.4	1.2

<sup>a</sup> Asymptomatic elevations in GGT levels are more frequent in VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> recipients than in controls. Because hepatitis has occasionally been reported in VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup>-treated patients, monitoring of liver function tests should be considered.

**OVERDOSAGE:** There is no known antidote for VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> overdose. No acute toxicities or sequelae were reported for one patient who ingested 800 mg of VIRAMUNE<sup>®</sup> for one day.

**CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS DISPENSING WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION**

Reference: 1. Data on file, Roxane Laboratories, Inc.

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RX-1841BW (8/97)



## City pays Chateau Agape \$84K for no clients

by Cynthia Laird

For seven months San Francisco has paid \$12,000 rent each month to house mental health clients, including people living with HIV, at the Chateau Agape residential facility on Guerrero Street – even though no clients live there, because the home is years behind its scheduled reopening after a June 1994 fire.

Members of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council expressed concern about using federal Ryan White CARE funds for the program when they reached consensus at their August 23 retreat to reduce funds for the mental health service category, particularly for long-term care. Instead, the council wants CARE dollars for mental health services to go for short-term crisis services.

The city's Department of Public Health AIDS Office has so far paid out \$84,000 in CARE funds for Chateau Agape rent and insurance payments since the facility obtained a certificate of occupancy in February. Wayne Clark, with the city's mental health services department, told the B.A.R. that although the AIDS Office pays the rent for the building, service costs for all the clients, including those who have HIV/AIDS, are paid by mental health department funds.

Clark said he thought the residential facility would be up and running long before its expected November reopening date. But, he said, "it's taking longer in start-up and refurbishing. We thought it would take six months; it's taken two and a half years."

The delays primarily revolve

around litigation; the city is being sued by the property owners, Leroy and Kathy Looper [see related story, opposite page]. Smith said that despite the lack of a residential program, the city resumed monthly rent payments partly because of the pending lawsuit. That decision was made by the city attorney's office, and was apparently made in an effort to ease what Smith characterized as "ill will between various parties," presumably the city, the Loopers, and Westside Mental Health, the agency that has the contract to provide services at Chateau Agape and provided services there at the time of the fire.

"There was a certain amount of ill will generated by the fire," Smith said, although he declined to elaborate on specifics.

The program was also delayed by Westside's going through the state process to get the 25-bed facility licensed; 12 of those beds are designated for HIV-positive people.

"A series of things have gone wrong," Smith acknowledged. Among them are accessibility renovations and reconstruction to repair fire damage.

Asked why another agency couldn't take over operations from Westside if there was such "ill will," Smith said, "We looked at the possibility of another contractor. But we asked Westside to work on it [the ill will]. If they didn't, then we would have had to send out for requests for proposals, which would have taken four to six months."

He added that that now seems like no time at all, compared to the years the Chateau has been sitting empty while mental health clients have been without a residential program. ▼

### Looper

◀ previous page

extremely dangerous (and potentially life-threatening) situation," she wrote.

The June 1994 four-alarm blaze that destroyed the facility was started by an unsupervised seriously mentally ill resident who was smoking in the house. The fire followed repeated warnings to city monitors by a fire marshal and a formal citation of Westside Community Mental Health Center Inc., the nonprofit contractor selected by the city to run the 25-person board-and-care home after the city leased the building from the Loopers, who had operated it for 15 years.

The Loopers' operation of the Chateau Agape received critical acclaim and awards, and was featured in a *New Yorker* profile and a 48 Hours news documentary segment.

The controversial contractor that the city selected to run the program had no previous experience or license to run such a program – and, in violation of state law but with the city's knowledge, operated the program for nearly a year without any license or clinical director.

There were at least four other cigarette-related fires at Chateau Agape during Westside's operation of the program before the house finally burned down, according to documents obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The city stopped paying an estimated \$12,000 monthly rent on the burned-out facility after the

1994 fire, payments that were only reinstated in February. The Loopers say in court documents that they were forced to take out loans to cover repair costs not covered by their insurance. Those costs included nearly \$400,000 in mandated fire, electrical and seismic code upgrades for a mental health facility, which they say would have been unnecessary if there had been appropriate supervision of residents by Westside – or appropriate monitoring of Westside by the San Francisco Department of Mental Health Services.

A review of the relevant portions of the lease with the city clearly shows that the Loopers are to be reimbursed for any uninsured repair or maintenance if "necessitated or occasioned by the negligence of the City or operator or their respective employees, agents or contractors."

The lease also says that the city would make the alterations necessary to comply with local laws, statutes, and regulations – such as fire codes – when the alterations are "necessitated by the City's unique use of the premises."

After the Loopers sued, the city argued that it was not negligent and that it is immune from liability. It has declined to pay for between \$700,000 and \$800,000 in costs, damages, and attorney's fees not covered by the Loopers' insurance.

San Francisco Superior Court Judge David Garcia last week denied the city's motions for summary judgment, ruling that a reasonable jury could find the city negligent, and ordered the case to trial on September 22. ▼

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**HIV Community Update:**

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M.D., M.P.H.

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Next Update, Oct. 15th: Neurological and Psychological Complications.

# Wilson urged to sign bone marrow bill

by Marghe Covino

A group of women led by Assemblymember Carole Migden attended a Sacramento press conference Tuesday, September 9 to urge Governor Pete Wilson to sign Migden's AB 760 into law. Joining Migden were Assemblymember Lynne C. Leach, R-Walnut Creek, and Brad Kane, representing State Comptroller Kathleen Connell.

Leach was clearly breaking ranks with the governor and the Republican party leadership by joining Migden to speak out on the issue. "Survival is the key word here," Leach said. "So many more women will survive this dreaded disease if the Governor signs into

law this bill, which would require health insurers to pay for autologous bone marrow transplant if her physician determines it is necessary for her survival.

"State employees already are covered for this treatment, but private sector employees are not. I join with my colleagues in urging the governor to sign this measure," Leach said.

Marie Fitt, Executive Coordinator of New Hope Cancer Foundation, said later, "By making that statement at the press conference, Leach showed leadership, courage, and vision, qualities that have been conspicuously absent among Republican women legislators around this issue in the past."

Migden urged that Wilson

consider the bill on its own merits, keeping in mind that the urgency is to save the lives of women and some men who need this treatment and are currently caught in a devastating dilemma.

"Decisions for this life-extending procedure are currently made by HMOs rather than physicians, who are better suited to make a medical judgment," Migden said. She urged that Wilson "heed the bipartisan appeal and consider AB 760 on its merits and not obstruct sound public policy that will save the lives of women."

The bill now sits on Wilson's desk. Despite his stated intention to veto all HMO bills and consider a commission to "study" the issues, some are still hopeful because he hasn't yet vetoed the bill. ▼

## Mayor's committee seeks input on PWA workplace reentry this Tuesday

by Cynthia Laird

The design and expansion of workplace entry and reentry programs for people living with HIV/AIDS will be discussed at a public forum hosted by Mayor Willie Brown's AIDS steering committee this Tuesday, Sep-

tember 16. The AIDS steering committee is re-examining the San Francisco model of care and its prevention messages in light of the advances in HIV/AIDS medical therapies; the committee will develop a new model that maximizes the opportunities afforded by these advances, and is planning the Mayor's AIDS Summit.

Paul Vander Waerd, subcommittee co-chair, said that separate meetings will be scheduled for service providers; next week's public forum is specifically for consumers of HIV/AIDS services.

Brown is planning his December 2 AIDS Summit to showcase the city's response to changes in the epidemic for a national, primarily invitation-only audience of 2,500 people. There will be some seats available for the general public, said Dean Goodwin, the

several subcommittees that include leading AIDS advocates, consumers, doctors, researchers, service providers, policy and grant makers, employers, and others. These groups are preparing "white papers" on access to new treatments, compliance with new treatments, workplace entry and reentry, testing and reporting, new prevention models, and insurance coverage. The results of this community planning process will be presented at the AIDS Summit.

Hill said that the workplace entry and reentry subcommittee is charged with conducting a comprehensive assessment of the employment service needs of people living with HIV/AIDS in the city and designing a service delivery system that's responsive to identified needs. Both the service

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## Over the last year, combination antiretroviral treatment has brought new challenges to light, such as workplace re-entry.

mayor's liaison to the queer community. The summit will be broadcast on local cable television.

"We want to hear about the experiences of people living with HIV in entering or reentering the workplace so we can design employment services fully responsive to their needs," said San Francisco Health Commissioner Ron Hill, co-chair of the subcommittee on workplace entry and reentry. "Mayor Brown asked us to develop recommendations to ensure that these services are effective, comprehensive, and consumer-friendly, so public comment is a really important part of our work."

Over the last year, combination antiretroviral treatment, especially protease inhibitors, have improved the quality of life for many people living with HIV/AIDS, while also bringing new challenges to light, such as workplace entry and reentry services for the thousands of disabled San Franciscans who are now able to return to the work force.

The steering committee has

capacity and continuum of available employment services for people living with HIV/AIDS who wish to enter or reenter the work force need to be expanded significantly, he added.

"Advances in AIDS treatment options have significantly changed consumers' social service needs, while creating a tremendous opportunity for San Francisco to return thousands of individuals disabled by HIV/AIDS to productive employment as tax-paying supporters, rather than dependents, of the city's public health and welfare systems," Brown stated. "My AIDS steering committee will develop recommendations to help the city respond effectively to the challenge of updating the San Francisco model of care to reflect the changed environment resulting from the new therapies." ▼

The public forum will take place from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the AIDS Office, located at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Room 303.



## HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

# San Francisco's vaccine vanguard

by Bill Snow, ACT UP/  
Golden Gate Writers Pool

More than 40 years ago, the children who participated in polio vaccine trials got a souvenir button saying, "I Was a Polio Pioneer." In all the literature that surrounded those trials, the words "volunteer," "experimental," and "test" were never used. Parents had to "request" that their children participate in the trial. Millions did, and fortunately it all worked out well. Because of this vaccine, polio has essentially been eradicated in the developed world, and there is a plan to continue to eradicate it worldwide, as smallpox has been.

Today, an important step forward in preventive HIV vaccine research is happening at the Department of Public Health with much less fanfare and a great deal more openness and caution. For the last two years, DPH AIDS Office Research Branch has followed a group of 791 sexually active HIV-negative gay and bisexual men as part of a Vaccine Preparedness Study. Now some of those men are being asked if they wish to join a safety and immune response trial of two candidate vaccines. The trial, HIVNET 014/AVEG 202, is being conducted at 14 sites around the country to see if this vaccine combination

The trial will enroll 420 participants nationwide, of whom 30 will be from San Francisco. Nationwide, 1/3 will receive both experimental vaccines, 1/3 will receive the ALVAC vaccine and a dummy vaccine known as a placebo, and 1/3 will receive two placebos; no one in San Francisco will know until the end of the study who got vaccine and who got placebo. The study will continue for two years, but some results will be available after one year to help decide whether to move to larger trials. The process of informing, screening, and getting the consent of participants before they ever get an injection of vaccine or placebo is underway.

## Risk factors

There are risks from participating in this trial for any potential participant. Perhaps most important is that we have no idea if these vaccines will provide any protection against HIV infection, and that some participants will receive placebo. Therefore, participants must not increase their risk behavior or expose themselves to HIV because they are in this trial. Later, if these vaccines continue to appear safe and appear to stimulate immune responses, preven-

tion is an experiment, even though these vaccines have been tested safely in animals and humans in Phase I safety trials, there may be other side effects — even serious ones — that haven't been seen yet.

Aside from the physical risks, there are social risks to consider as well. After vaccination, participants may test HIV antibody positive on standard tests. This may be an indication that the vaccine is producing a desirable immune response, but it will require special tests to rule out actual HIV infection. Those extra tests will be available from the Department of Public Health at any time for participants who need or want them. But there is the possibility that participants could be discriminated against if they appear to be HIV antibody positive. In the past these problems have included: getting insurance, hospitalization, traveling to other countries, employment, military/Peace Corps service, and relationship problems with friends or family. If any of these problems occur, participants will be helped to address and remedy them by the study staff and National Institutes of Health.

It is also possible that knowledge of participation in the study alone might prompt discrimination simply based on being from a risk group. In California, there are legal protections against such discrimination.

Practically, the study involves four vaccination visits and about 14 visits to SF General for injections, blood draws, interviews, and counseling.

So the big question is, why bother? Certainly not to protect yourself. Perhaps the best, maybe the only good reason is what's known as altruism: the need some people have to make a contribution, to take some action, to be part of an effort they believe in. We all take risks, some are selfish, some are stupid, some are calculated, some are irrational. They're all human, and we choose our own.

For the sake of getting an AIDS vaccine, many in our community will ultimately have to step forward and take these risks. Is that good enough? The answer is up to each individual. There are no right or wrong answers. For this trial we need 30 volunteers from an existing study; down the line we'll need thousands.

What would you do? ▼

For additional information, e-mail [joe\\_wright@dph.sf.ca.us](mailto:joe_wright@dph.sf.ca.us) or call (415) 554-9065



ACT UP

**For the sake of getting an AIDS vaccine, many in our community will ultimately have to step forward and take some risks. Down the line, we'll need thousands more volunteers.**

approach is ready for further testing to determine if it will prevent HIV infection. That "efficacy" trial could start in 1999.

Testing a potential vaccine begins with small safety trials in a few low-risk individuals. Over the last ten years, about 2,000 people have participated in Phase I trials of about 15 experimental HIV vaccine products. In the early 1990s, some San Franciscans were participants in early safety trials of rgp120 at San Francisco General. They were our first HIV vaccine pioneers.

The current trial is only the second Phase II Trial of a preventive HIV vaccine (the first was with one of these products alone), and the first Phase II trial for San Francisco. No vaccine has moved beyond this safety stage to testing for efficacy, Phase III. The vaccine candidates are known as ALVAC vCP205 and rgp120. The ALVAC vaccine has HIV genes engineered into a live canarypox virus which doesn't reproduce in humans; the rgp120 vaccine is a copy of proteins from the outside coat of HIV. Both of these candidate vaccines appear to be quite safe, and have been genetically engineered, so there is no risk of becoming infected from vaccination.

A randomly ordered list has been made of the Vaccine Preparedness Participants, and they are being asked in order if they wish to participate in this trial.

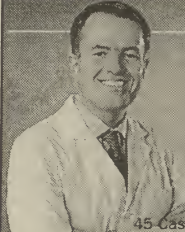
tion would have to be tested in a much larger trial. At this stage any new HIV infections would only cloud the questions that are being studied. In addition, for this and for efficacy trials, becoming HIV-infected would have the usual serious personal ramifications. It is even a theoretical possibility that vaccination may make one more likely to become HIV-infected, although the opposite is the desired outcome and more likely. Therefore, everyone will be encouraged to avoid exposure from unsafe sex or needle sharing.

Also, as with any medication or vaccine, the vaccine candidates may cause side effects. In previous safety studies, these have been minor and short-lasting if they happen at all. Participants could develop allergic reactions, which could range from mild reactions to life-threatening ones. Since this

## ACTION UPDATE

### Vaccine and heard in San Diego

There will be a one-day National HIV Vaccine Advocates Forum on November 8 in San Diego (attached to the National AIDS Treatment Advocates Forum November 9-12). This forum should be a great place for people to get connected with other activists who are interested in the issue. For more info, call the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition at (415) 248-1330. ▼

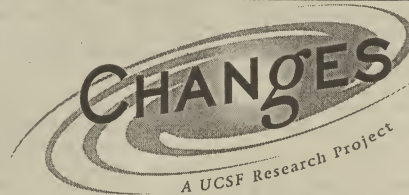


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# Gay Games a go go!

by Jim Provenzano

In an atmosphere reminiscent of a junior high school assembly — possibly because it was held in the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy gymnasium on 19th Street — the meeting between executives of Gay Games and participating athletes last Thursday, September 4, was at times both celebratory and tense. While many in attendance were clearly excited that representatives from the Netherlands went out of their way to promote the event in a multi-city tour of the U.S., some athletes were anxious to raise unanswered concerns.

After presentations by Team San Francisco co-chairs Lisa LeBreque and Marcus Valera, and a performance by Spirit in Motion, the group heard remarks by Susan Kennedy, co-president of the Federation of Gay Games, were shown a short video about the Games, and watched a rousing performance by Cheer San Francisco.

Remarks were heard and addressed by Amsterdam officials Marc Janssens, the executive director; Pascal van den Noort, director of development; and Paul van Yperen, the director of public relations. Also on hand was Maxim, the large Dutch drag queen who serves as the event's ebullient mascot.

The first point that athletes heard was that even if they had pre-registered, they were now required to register all over again.

Apparently the pre-registration merely reserved a space. Registration booklets were soon snapped up. An additional \$107 is required of all pre-registered athletes, and filling out forms again did not please participants.

"If you have pre-registered, you will be getting something in the mail," Lisa LeBreque assured the confused athletes. She also said that pre-registration was used to get a sense of which sports would be more popular, so that they could make adjustments to the limitations. Bowling and swimming, among other sports, have been expanded since pre-registration.

(In addition to the expanded swimming events, diving is being presented, but as an exhibition match. Janssens took great pleasure in describing the space, located about half an hour outside of central Amsterdam. "It's a beautiful pool. We are advising all people who want to participate to register soon.")

Some people noted that they did not receive confirmation of payment, through either Gay Games or their credit card companies. The message seems to be that some people's forms may have been lost or misplaced, so re-sending applications seems in order.

## Steroids and sanctioning

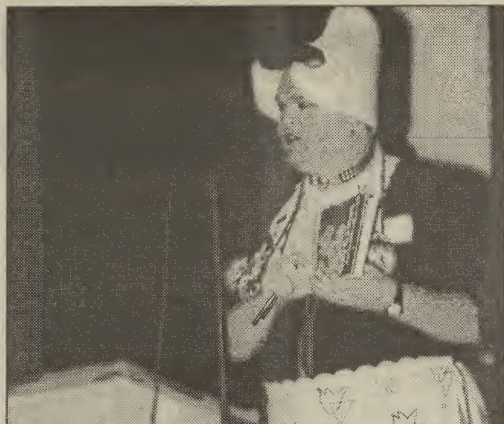
The issue of drug-testing HIV-positive physique competitors came up, with the point that it would affect some bodybuilders and power lifters who use testos-

terone and similar steroids for their anti-HIV properties. Janssens said no drugs have been banned yet, but the question would be discussed at the Denver Federation of Gay Games meeting in November 1997 (where the site of Gay Games VI will also be decided). If the federation decides to ban any substances, it will announce the list of forbidden drugs then. Of the possibility that most "performance-enhancing drugs - particularly steroids - would be banned," he said, "we're sure we cannot make everybody happy about it."

Janssens mentioned that the likelihood of a drug ban had provoked a harsh reaction in New York, where an athlete called it "discrimination against one sport." He also said that unfortunately, "I think it's going to be the case for this Gay Games, and possibly the next Gay Games."

A larger looming controversy concerned sanctioning, the process of making sure the governing bodies that record athletic records will accept statistics from all deserving athletes. "We are all most there," said Janssens. "Everybody in the Netherlands promised us that it will happen."

One of the founders of Team Tsunami Swim Club, Duke Dahlin, interrupted, "We've been hearing about this for months and months." He pointed out inconsistencies between Janssens's comments and information on the Gay Games website. "There are so many swimmers out there waiting to register because the



Maxim Bezembinder on stage

meet is not sanctioned," he said. "Those of us who are competitors are not going to just swim in the pool to have fun."

"Why? That's the purpose of the Gay Games!" someone shouted.

Annoyed athletes pointed out privately that almost 600 swimmers have pre-registered, and if one were to break a world record in a non-sanctioned meet, it would be for naught. And, they asked, if the purpose of Gay Games is only to have fun, why are all athletes required to register the application forms with the appropriate athletic organizations? While an aura of professionalism appears in the forms, it seems as if Amsterdam is still trying to get there.

"First, we tried to get sanctioned [sic] as a gay organization," admitted Janssens. "That was denied by FINA [a Dutch governing board], which we really hated. Because if we can do it, the next Gay Games can really benefit from that." He said that this week the Amsterdam swim clubs officially filed forms to get their events sanctioned. However, he admitted, "it's not in our hands."

"I'd like to add something," said Pascal van den Noort. "We're not gonna take no for an answer." Applause followed his remark.

## Outreach and open houses

Some foreign athletes had their problems expressed through friends. One question involved a Russian, who was told he must obtain a formal invitation from the Dutch consulate. It seems some walls haven't fallen. Paul van Yperen said that people in this situation are encouraged to contact him to join their Outreach Program, aimed at queer athletes in "Third World countries, or Eastern bloc countries." They will be assisted by the Dutch Minister of Cultural Affairs, who has a fund at his disposal to help offset expenses.

Other athletes mentioned a problem with team size limitations, particularly in softball, which was limited to a dozen players. Longtime Gay Games athlete Sarah Lowenstein (the widow of Tom Waddell, co-founder of Gay Games) stressed that limiting the number of softball players to 12 was dangerous, as players would have injuries and would need to be replaced. "There is not a tournament in the world that limits teams to 12 players," she said. Janssens promised to see about expanding this stricture.

The prospect of scarce hotel rooms also came up. The officials admitted that many hotels are already full, but they claimed there is an availability of lower-priced housing. "Obviously, Amsterdam is going to be very, very full in the first week of August," Janssens

said. "So make your reservations as soon as possible."

Low-cost housing plans include making 1,500 units of hosted housing available, as well as camping spaces. Janssens mentioned that the mayor of Amsterdam announced two weeks ago that, if needed, he will ask all residents of Amsterdam to "open their doors" to gay athletes.

"So, if the 1,500 places of hosted houses aren't enough," he promised, "we will start a campaign to open more houses."

Hotels still seem to be a problem, however, according to the Team SF Travel Coordinator Jim Skiba, who expressed frustration in arranging accommodations for many athletes.

Due to the popularity of many sports and the small size of some arenas, many sporting events will not be free to athletes. Tickets for sporting events, cultural events, and parties will be made available for purchase in December 1, 1997.

Of course, athletes will be admitted free to the formal ceremonies. The company producing the opening and closing ceremonies has also produced concerts for Madonna, Tina Turner, and other stars; the Dutch TV company providing media coverage expects overseas sales and is even wooing US broadcasters. Swiss TV has already begun producing monthly reports on the event's progress.

In summation, it seemed evident that some snafus and problems are inevitable. With a record 7,000 pre-registrations, as well as international mail, participants should be patient — but should also e-mail or call the Gay Games office if they don't get a response within a month.

Many questions can be answered in the registration booklet, which is in its second printing in English and is also available in French, Spanish, and other languages.

Anyone planning to go to Amsterdam should start working on it now. People interested in volunteering or registering (as athletes or as participants in the accompanying Cultural Festival) should obtain a revised registration booklet, available from the addresses below. Copies will also be available at the next Team San Francisco meeting [see "Team stir meeting," next page]. ▽

Information is available on the Gay Games website at <http://www.dds.nl/~gaygames/> or by calling 011 31 20 620 1998, faxing 011 31 20 626 1998, e-mailing [office@gaygames.nl](mailto:office@gaygames.nl) or writing Gay Games, P.O. Box 2837, 1000 CV, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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AIDS CARE INC.



## THE SPORTS PAGE

# Baseball been beddy, beddy good

by Jim Provenzano

**A**h, baseball: catchers, pitchers, and fielders!

There were more homers than homers at the San Francisco Giants' recent *Until There's a Cure* Day on Sunday, August 31, in the still quite functional 3Com Park. Several people involved in AIDS care and fundraising spoke into a microphone (which duly garbled every word they said) as volunteers displayed panels of the Names Project Memorial Quilt and young kids holding balloons formed a huge red ribbon on the field.

A lot of money was raised, and a lot of gay people, it seemed, came to a baseball game. That's always fun.

So was tuning our gaydar as some of my pals and I attended this event. Gaggles of gay and lesbian folk were all over the place! We spoke to some cuuute dudes who reassured this reporter of a

truth that some aspects of sports still elude the gay mind.

"I'm not a big sports fan, so I don't really know what the hell's goin' on out there," admitted Ron Dozek with a laugh. "I'm just here with my friends for the cause."

His friend Jeffrey Gruis joked about not knowing the basics of baseball, other than admitting that they cheered more for the more attractive players. "I figured it out at this point, and I've got the terminology down, and it's only the fourth inning." He smiled. "And I know now that it's not points. It's runs, although I really don't see the difference. It's semantics."

His friend Nick Hodges admitted to not being adept in jock-speak, either, despite looking quite athletic himself. "Organized events are strange to me. I don't

go. But sports like the gym, hiking and running, that kind of thing, I do."

"But you know, the energy's a lot of fun," said Gruis. "I'm not a baseball fan, and I won't be after today [the Giants' performance that day could barely be called 'competent']. But it's kind of fun to be here and drink a beer with your friends. That part of it's fun."

When asked about attending such a notoriously "straight" sports event, gay folk had different opinions.

"We've kind of freaked out the people behind us," said Gruis.

"But it took them about a minute to adjust, and so have we. We're not girling it up as much as we were."

Added Hodges, "Or as much as we'd like."

The performer known in theatrical circles as Trauma Flintstone, said, "It was a little scary when we pulled into the parking lot. It didn't look like it was gonna be a gay day at all. We were looking for the rainbow flags, clues, and there were none. But so what? We're here."

His pal Mike Delgado added, "We've had a really nice time and everyone's pretty friendly. So, you know, you can hang out with straight people, too. They're okay."

Trauma liked the crowd's warm response to the Lollipop Guild of the Gay Men's Chorus, which sang the national anthem.



The Lollipop Guild of the Gay Men's Chorus perform at *Until There's a Cure* Day, August 31, at 3Com Park.

Delgado appreciated the warm welcome for the immense red ribbon on the field.

"There's a lot of tolerance here that you usually don't see," Trauma said, as a pizza vendor passed by. "Usually it's paired with a kind of patronizing attitude, and I didn't sense that at all."

Delgado also said, "In these venues of athleticism, it's often paired with heterosexuality, so it's nice to see things a little differently."

Gay athletes were a hot topic, of course. Trauma mentioned former umpire Dave Pallone, and other athletes who came out after retiring. "It would be nice if someone like that, no matter what

they're doing in sports, were able to be out while playing."

Trauma believes a major part of the resistance is from the owners, who want to control the image of players. Despite numerous incidents of drug, assault and driving arrests among pro players, homosexuality is still perceived as worse than such criminal offenses.

When asked if he looked forward to a day when he could attend a pro game and know that one or some of the athletes on the field were gay, Delgado said, "Oh, you mean like Steve Young of the 49ers?"

Which just goes to show, you can learn a lot about football at a baseball game. ▼

## Good sports to gather at Angel Island for FrontRunners' picnic

by Anne M. Ludwig

**N**ext Sunday, September 21, the San Francisco FrontRunners will throw a party they call "the world's largest family picnic" at the East Garrison Picnic Area on Angel Island.

Although the 16th Annual Lesbian Gay Picnic is organized by the gay running club, the FrontRunners are adamant that nobody has to be a runner to attend. Most other local lesbian and/or gay sports clubs also join the fun each year, giving people a good way to get to know members of the Gay Sierrans, the Tsunami swim team, the other Bay Area FrontRunners clubs, the Gay Softball League, and other teams. It is especially valuable for those who plan to attend the Gay Games in Amsterdam in August, 1998, since it is a good place to meet other participants.

All sports organizations are invited to provide information to interested picnickers, and can bring handouts and membership forms.

Activities throughout the day are designed to provide something for everyone; so far, softball, football, volleyball, swimming, and a run, bike ride, or hike around Angel Island are planned. Interested people are encouraged to "bring your bicycle, bring your softball glove, bring your Frisbee, bring your paddle ball, bring your swimsuit (or not), and bring a dish."

Acknowledged "Picnic Guru" Naphtali Offen has said he has planned some new and unusual games. He has suggested he might

even resurrect the "Chubby Bunny Contest" — the details of which are best left unmentioned, except to say that it involves marshmallows.

Of course, where there are marshmallows and picnickers, there must be a grill. The FrontRunners plan to fire it up for those who bring something to throw on the fire. The club also reminds people to bring the paper stuff for their dining, and a dish to share (if your last name begins with A-G, please bring dessert; H-Q, main dish; R-Z, salad). When everyone has settled down to enjoy the potato and fruit salads and burned hot dogs, representatives from the different athletic clubs will give short talks about their clubs and future activities.

There is no fee to join the picnic, but tickets to Angel Island on the Blue and Gold ferries are \$10 per person, round-trip, from San Francisco. (The FrontRunners advise interested people to get tickets in advance from the club.) Ferries depart from Fisherman's Wharf at 9 a.m., 10, noon, and 2 p.m.; club members say the 9 a.m. ferry has been virtually 100% gay in past years. Ferries also leave from Tiburon, on the hour from 10 a.m., costing \$6 round-trip. ▼

For information, contact Naphtali Offen at (415) 776-3442, or [lamda23@aol.com](mailto:lamda23@aol.com), or SF FrontRunners President John Kruse at [john4321@aol.com](mailto:john4321@aol.com). For information on Angel Island State Park, call (415) 435-1915.

## Team stir meeting

**T**he next Team San Francisco meeting is this Saturday, September 13 at 3 p.m. in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, located at Collingwood and 18th streets.

The meeting will feature discussions about housing, travel, uniforms, and other Gay Games issues, and it will give new and old members a chance to meet the new Board of Directors members Danielle Hupp, Tony Jasinski, Jerry Ervin, and Nick Barajas.

To reach Team San Francisco, write 2215-R Market Street #519, San Francisco CA 94114-1612, call (415) 522-2386, or visit the website at <http://www.sirius.com/~teamsf> email: [teamsf@sirius.com](mailto:teamsf@sirius.com). ▼

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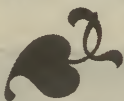
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Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Carl Cochran

Dec. 25, 1946 – Aug. 27, 1997



Leaving behind countless friends and relations, Carl has gone to join those who left before and will welcome him.

After receiving his degree at the University of Texas, Carl enjoyed a series of various jobs, including news reporter in San Angelo, Texas; news producer at KHOU-TV in Houston, Texas; and his last employment, executive producer of corporate television with Pacific Bell in San Francisco.

Carl will be remembered most for his lightning quick mind, sense of humor, and his kindness and devotion to friends and family. He leaves behind his beloved Pomeranian, Fred, who kept him active his last years.

Carl is survived by his mother, Betty Ireland; his sister, Elizabeth; brother, Les, also of Texas; and his sister, Virginia of Washington, D.C.

A memorial service is planned for Saturday, Oct. 25, at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park. Please call 415/831-2467 for details.

Angelo Peter Genova  
(a.k.a. "Taurus, the Bull")  
1924-1997

Angelo Peter Genova, 73, died Aug. 22. "I'm gay!"

## Wilson Ortiz Jr.

Jan. 26, 1965 – Aug. 25, 1997



Wilson passed away on Aug. 25 after struggling with mental illness over the past couple of years. He was 32.

Born and raised in his favorite city of San Francisco, Wilson worked at the Pan Pacific Hotel for eight years; ran his own house-cleaning business; and volunteered his services at Project Open Hand. His kind and giving spirit will be remembered by many friends in the community. He loved to travel; he loved feeding birds wherever he encountered them; and he loved to share his smile and kindness everywhere.

Wilson is survived by his parents, Anita and Bob Felix; brothers and sisters, Henry, Anna, Chino and Yolanda; many nieces and nephews; and other family members. He will be forever missed by his partner of nine years, Jim Draxler.

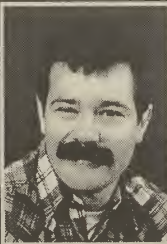
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U.S. Conference  
on AIDS to convene  
next week in Miami

by Dennis Conkin

A diverse partnership of 12 national AIDS groups, headed by the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC), will present the first U.S. Conference on AIDS next week from September 18-21 in Miami Beach, Florida. Clinton administration AIDS czar Sally Thurman, talk-show pioneer Phil Donahue, and AIDS researcher and 1996 *Time* magazine Man Of The Year Dr. David Ho will be among the plenary speakers at Miami Beach's Fontainebleau Hotel.

An estimated 2,500 AIDS professionals from 1,000 organizations are expected to attend the day-long institutes and half-day seminars focusing on HIV prevention, treatment, and care, as well as public policy and management issues.

NMAC organized the conference with other groups, including the National Task Force on AIDS Preven-

tion, the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

"Minority communities represent the fastest-growing segment of the AIDS epidemic," NMAC Executive Director Paul Kawata pointed out in a press statement, "yet minority communities, poor communities, and women have also received a smaller share of the benefit from AIDS treatment, education, and prevention."

According to NMAC, new HIV infections have leveled among white men, but the AIDS epidemic continues to grow in communities of color and among women of all races. AIDS incidence rates in the U.S. are seven times higher among blacks than whites, the group states, and Hispanics have an infection rate three times higher than whites. Women now account for 20 percent of new AIDS cases, according to NMAC statistic.

AIDS educators and front-line workers from around the country will discuss programs that address the special needs of various minorities, including African-Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Latino/as, Native Americans, women, youth, and people living in rural communities.

Also on the conference agenda are programs addressing the HIV/AIDS issues of prostitutes, incarcerated people, gay men of color, and intravenous drug users.

Former U.S. Representative Steve Gunderson and Jeannie White, mother of the late activist Ryan White, will speak. Performers will include folk-singing legends Chris Williamson and Tret Fure, Cuban pop star Albita, and Miami-based gospel singer Petera Johnson.

NMAC was founded in 1987 to develop leadership within communities of color to address HIV infection. Its constituency includes more than 3,000 community-based groups such as street outreach, storefront AIDS education and prevention groups, clinics, hospitals, shelters, and schools.

Local members of the agency's board include James Abrams of the Native American AIDS Project and Jaime Geaga of the Filipino Task Force on AIDS.

Corporate support from the conference is provided by AIDS pharmaceutical manufacturer Glaxo-Wellcome, Inc., tobacco company Phillip Morris, Inc., American Airlines, Ross Products, Abbott Laboratories, and others. ▼

For more info, contact the Council at 202-483-NMAC, or e-mail NMAC@aol.com.

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# 'Don't Ask' upheld, but gay servicemembers fight on

United Press International

Two gay officers whose discharge from military service was upheld by a federal appeals court plan to mount a new legal challenge to the government's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

San Francisco attorney Todd E. Thompson told UPI the servicemembers will petition within 45 days for an "en banc" hearing by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals — meaning that 11 justices would

hear the appeal instead of the usual panel of three.

Thompson said another option would be to appeal the September 5 decision by the circuit panel, which split 2-1, to the US Supreme Court.

Both officers, California National Guard First Lieutenant Andrew Holmes of Sacramento and Navy Lieutenant Richard Watson of Bremerton, Washington, had sterling service records but were discharged after openly admitting being gay. Such an admission in-

dicated the officers had a "propensity to engage in prohibited homosexual conduct," the appeals court ruled.

Thompson, who represents Holmes, calls "irrational" a policy that permits homosexuals to enter the military, but then discharges them if they admit being gay.

"It's our belief the military policy of discharging good servicemembers solely because they admit to having a gay sexual identity is irrational and violates their constitutional rights of due

process and freedom of speech," said Thompson. He said the excellent service record of Holmes, who served in Operation Desert Storm, wasn't taken into account by the court.

In upholding the discharges of Holmes and Watson, a 15-year Naval officer, the appeals court noted the "don't ask, don't tell" policy doesn't bar entry of homosexuals into the military. However, a servicemember can be discharged "who makes a statement that he is a homosexual and fails

to rebut the presumption, raised by that statement, that he has a propensity to engage in homosexual acts."

In a dissenting opinion, Circuit Judge Stephen Reinhardt said discharging a serviceman on the basis of the statement, "I am a homosexual," violates rights guaranteed by the First Amendment.

"It is evident to me that if homosexual status is not a bar to service, admitting to that status ... cannot itself be a cause for discharge," Reinhardt said. ▼

## Sheldon charged by city attorney

by Marghe Covino

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it." — Proverbs 6:3

In 1993 the San Francisco-based group D-2 filed a complaint with the Fair Political Practices Commission over campaign irregularities committed by Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition (TVC), who do-

nated \$6,000 to the homophobic No on K campaign in the form of an anonymous cashier's check. The FPCC fined Sheldon \$2,000 for the violation.

History appears to be repeating itself. After a six-month investigation, the Anaheim city attorney's office has filed a five-count misdemeanor complaint against Lou Sheldon's son, Stephen, over campaign violations.

Stephen Sheldon is the owner of an Anaheim-based political consulting firm, the Business and

Taxpayers Good Government Committee (BTGGC), which purportedly advances conservative candidates and positions. (He was also the longtime executive director of the TVC, but at press time B.A.R. was unable to determine if he still holds that position.)

Sheldon and BTGGC treasurer Rex Brady pleaded not guilty last week to charges they accepted five campaign contributions in excess of the city's \$1,000 limit.

According to reports in the *Orange County Register*, the alleged

illegal contributions ranged from \$5,000 to \$15,000, totaling \$46,000. They included a \$5,000 contribution from California State Senator Rob Hurt's container supply corporation, and \$20,000 from a PAC with ties to gaming interests.

Ironically, the candidate Sheldon and Brady were allegedly assisting, Lucille Kring, not only lost the city council election but claims she has no idea who they are. In campaign disclosure reports the group claims to have spent

\$32,186.30 to print, label, and mail flyers for Kring — while Kring states, "I don't know this group at all."

Although defense attorney Ed Hall attempted to minimize his clients' crimes by saying they didn't know they were violating a city ordinance on campaign limits, City Attorney Jack White called the case a "significant violation."

A pre-trial date was set for October 28. Upon conviction, the maximum penalty is a \$1,000 fine for each of the five counts, or six months in jail for each count. ▼

## Redevelopment

◀ page 1

contracts after the effective date of the policy with any contractor who discriminates in the provision of benefits between employers with domestic partners and employees with spouses.

Both would apply to all contracts, including purchase orders, that exceed \$5,000 cumulatively in a fiscal year. As with the city's domestic partner ordinance, subcontractors are excluded from the

benefits provision, although they would have to comply with the nondiscrimination provision. Both parts of the policy would also apply to property contractors that lease or rent agency property for more than 29 days, or when the agreement contains a longterm commitment of agency funds.

The two aspects of the policy were voted on separately, and both were approved 6-0 by the commissioners. Dunlop said he believes this is the first redevelopment body in the country to

adopt such a policy.

The city's redevelopment agency is a state-chartered entity that finds, designates, and redevelops "blighted" areas. The term "blighted" is fairly broad; examples of the agency's redevelopment projects include the Yerba Buena area downtown and the Hunter's Point area.

Commissioners had few questions about the policy and were told by agency staff that noncompliance would result in a contract not being executed.

"I'm really happy about this,"

Dunlop said, adding that in the future, he would like to see the redevelopment agency do more outreach to queer contractors.

He told the B.A.R. that the new policy adopted by the commission basically follows the same guidelines as the city's domestic partner benefit ordinance law that went into effect July 1. Staff with the Human Rights Commission (HRC), which certifies contractor compliance with the city's law, would do similar work for redevelopment agency contractors.

A staff report prepared for the

redevelopment commission by Executive Director James Morales stated that the agency has nearly 1,100 vendors with which it has done business in the last two-and-a-half years. Of those, approximately 300 have exceeded \$5,000 in cumulative expenditures since January 1, 1996, and another 100 have exceeded \$5,000 since January 1, 1995. The challenge will be to get as many of the agency vendors as possible certified by the time of implementation to avoid delays on the contracting and development process. ▼

## Talk show

◀ page 1

thinly veiled call to violence." The commission will discuss Agozino's remarks at its next meeting.

Bay Area resident Cliff Anchor, a gay rights activist and retired Lieutenant Colonel in the United States military, learned that KBRT had filed an application for license renewal before the Federal Communications Commission only two weeks before Agozino made his statements. Anchor, himself a former longtime owner/operator of a radio station in Monte Rio, fired off a letter to FCC chair Reed Hundt to ask that KBRT's license not be renewed.

"Radio and TV stations are not supposed to set up a climate for hate," Anchor wrote. "They are supposed to serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. They are not supposed to champion the causes of hate groups. The remarks made by talk show host Rich Agozino and the station manager Ed Personius far exceed the right of religious freedom and expression, by advocating that a class of people should be put to

death because they happen to be homosexual.

"The FCC now has KBRT-AM application for renewal, file # 970728, which was filed on 14 August 1997, under consideration. In the public interest, the license to broadcast should not be renewed.

Anchor signed the letter with his rank and all his titles from NATO to the American Legion.

"That's what all of us need to do," Reverend Jerry Sloan of Project Tocsin told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We all need to write to our Congressmen and Senators, and tell them the station call letters and the file number to bring this under Congressional scrutiny.

"We have to make sure we have an impact. These people need to know this is absolutely unacceptable and that it's hate speech — not God's word — and it's not protected under the First Amendment." ▼

Send complaints to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, Washington D.C. 20554.

## BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216610

The following person(s) are doing business as VELLO CITY S.F., 1662 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94115; Roger R. Barriere, 1662 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94115. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Roger Barriere. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 18, 1997. August 21, 28, Sept. 4, 11, 1997.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216567

The following person(s) are doing business as ASTOR FINANCIAL, 442 Post St., 5th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102; Jerry Jacobs, 93 Partridge Dr., San Rafael, CA 94901. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jerry Jacobs. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 15, 1997. August 21, 28, Sept. 4, 11, 1997.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215544

The following person(s) are doing business as AARTI SHINAR FINE ARTS, 2538 Balboa St., San Francisco, CA 94121; Rann Shinar, 2538 Balboa St., San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 10, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rann Shinar. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 10, 1997. August 21, 28, Sept. 4, 11, 1997.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216754

The following person(s) are doing business as PROPAGANDA INC., 450 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; London Antique Inc. (CA), 450 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 1, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed David Tyerman, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 22, 1997. Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 1997.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216774

The following person(s) are doing business as WARFARE RECORDS, 527 3rd Street, #203, San Francisco, CA 94107; Telema C. Okobi, 127 Eastridge Circle, Pacifica, CA 94044. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of August 22, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Telema C. Okobi. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 22, 1997. Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 1997.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216717

The following person(s) are doing business as MARINO BOOKKEEPING SERVICES, 2021 California Street, #401, San Francisco, CA 94109; Joe Marino, 2021 California, #401, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of August 21, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Joe Marino. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 21, 1997. Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 1997.





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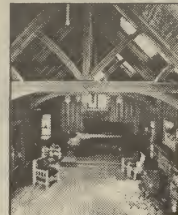
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**LEGAL SERVICES****FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 216877**

The following person(s) are doing business as 1. IN-TUNE SPORT 2. THE RUGGED ROAD, 1403 Deharo St., San Francisco, CA 94107. James Christian, 1403 Deharo St., San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of August 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed James Christian. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on August 26, 1997. Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 1997.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217121**

The following person(s) are doing business as FU LI CONSTRUCTION, 149 University St., San Francisco, CA 94134; Fu Li, 149 University St., San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 5, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Fu Li. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 5, 1997. Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 1997.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217149**

The following person(s) are doing business as AIDS EMERGENCY FUND, 1540 market St., Suite 320, San Francisco, CA 94102; San Francisco AIDS Fund, California, Section 501(c) 3 Cord, 1540 market St., Suite 320, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 15, 1983. This business is conducted by 501(c) 3 Corporation (Non-profit). Signed Ken Turner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 8, 1997. Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 1997.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 217144**

The following person(s) are doing business as ALIGNMENT AND SUSPENSION OF SAN FRANCISCO, 740 12th St., San Francisco, CA 94103; Jose Luis Vargas, 529 N. 13th St., San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jose Luis Vargas. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 8, 1997. Sept. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 1997.



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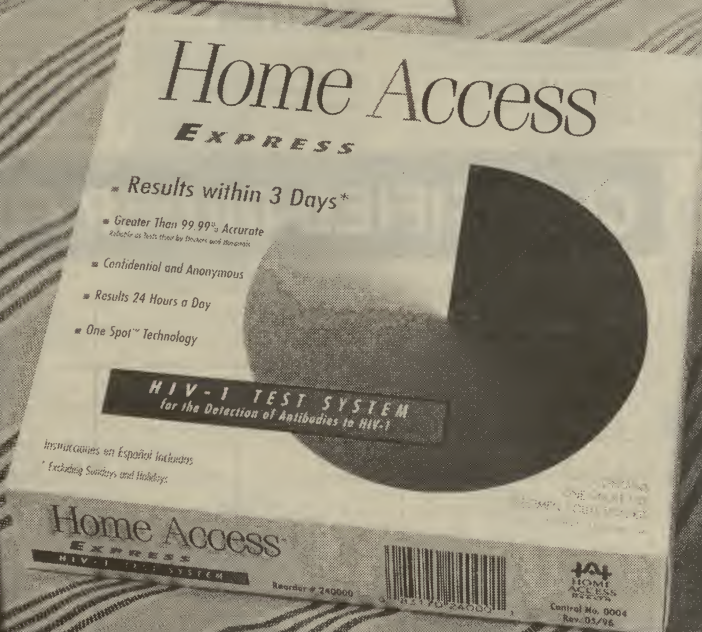
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Mary Thom's new book 'Inside Ms.' is an honest insider's recounting of the first 25 years of the feminist movement. **page 47**

Fraenkel Gallery show features new work by Joel-Peter Witkin. **page 38**



Japan's Pizzicato Five rolls into town with the Pizzicato Five Picnic '97. **page 41**



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

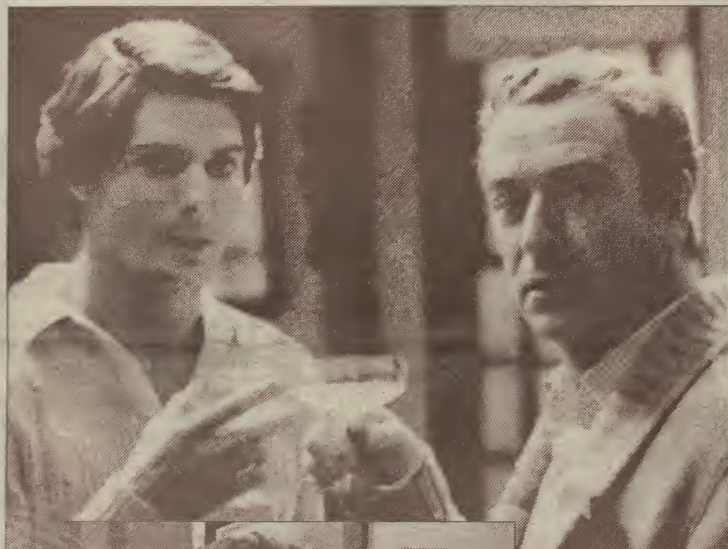
BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 37 • 11 September 1997

## When a kiss is not a kiss

*In & Out* rediscovers the male-to-male kiss

by Gary Morris



Paramount's new film *In & Out*, which opens here next week, can be read on one level as an attempt to relocate a sorely missed cinematic motif: the queer male kiss. When Kevin Kline and Tom Selleck settle in for their extended smooch, it's hard not to recall those instances in movies where such a kiss seemed called for but never arrived; where it was used to signify dislocation and terror; or more rarely, where it functioned like the one in *In & Out*, as a positive, pleasurable, even life-changing event. Independent, foreign, and porn films offer plenty of all-male kisses, but the mainstream has mostly showed extreme cowardice in this area.

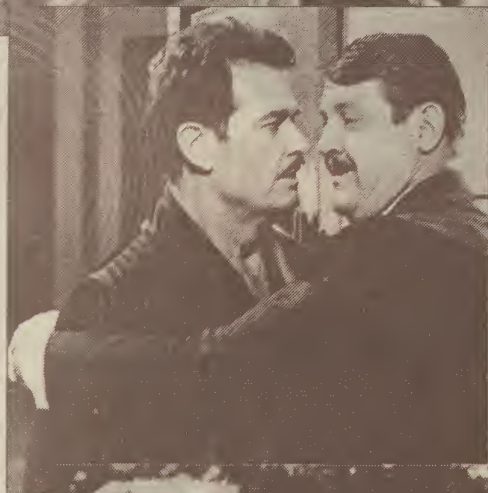
As in the past, the kiss in *In & Out* was the source of much anxiety. The shooting of the scene took two days, there are stories of security guards being nonplussed by this act of intimacy between two men, and cast members, while not objecting to the kiss, expressed anxiety over whether it would "play." Paramount execs hotly debated whether to keep the kiss or cut it, but preview audiences allegedly made the decision for them by first gasping and then, according to producer Scott Rudin, "cheering" as the kiss builds into a kind of comic frenzy. A cynic might claim that the amount of publicity generated by this kiss — and it was the topic among the press at a recent junket for the film in New York — was what motivated Paramount to let it stay in. Nonetheless, it's there and in its way, it works.

Historically, the cost of the queer kiss has been quite high. In one instance, this amount was actually measured. In *Deathtrap* (1982), Christopher Reeve and Michael Caine engage in a passionate liplock that Reeve later said came to be known as the "ten-million-dollar kiss" — the revenue the producers believe they lost as a result of daring to show it. (According to Vito Russo, Denver preview audiences ferociously booed it.) Even the masterful *Sunday, Bloody Sunday* (1971) is widely regarded to have failed commercially because of the frantic tongue-swapping between Peter Finch and the fetching Murray Head. The far duller *Making Love* (1982) flopped for the same reason; this time it was Harry Hamlin and Michael Ontkean who crossed the oral threshold. Queer viewers cheered both films anyway.

Mainstream audiences want their homosexuals without details, and Hollywood has always been willing to lend a helping hand. *Six Degrees of Separation* (1993) is more famous for Denzel Washington's widely quoted warning to Will Smith — "Don't you be kissing no man" — than it is for being a film with a credible queer character with sexual impulses. This calculated evasion not only offends intelligent viewers, it undercuts the film's credibility. How can an audience trust a movie that doesn't allow its characters to be what they're supposed to be? (Smith plays a hustler in the film.)

A more recent example of the "lost kiss" is *Philadelphia* **page 45 ►**

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Top to bottom: Christopher Reeve and Michael Caine in *Deathtrap*, James Garner and Alex Karras in *Victor/Victoria*, and Peter Finch, Murray Head, and Glenda Jackson in *Sunday, Bloody Sunday*.



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## OUT THERE

by Chris Culwell  
and Pithy Galore

Last week was a blur for most of us at Out There. We found ourselves lost in a martini haze as we cavorted from one glamorous opening to the next, swilling expensive liquor, scarfing *petits-fours*, and pretending to be interested in mind-numbingly banal small talk about tax shelters, yachting shoes, and Gas-X. Although socialites were predicting that Friday's big 75th gala at the War Memorial Opera House would be the hottest party of the season, we turned down a last minute invitation to the shindig once we realized that entering 301 Van Ness Avenue meant we'd have to walk underneath that tacky red curtain thing spewed all over the front of the building. Yes, we know that last Friday's festivities marked the return of the company to its newly refurbished home, and that this was just one last dramatic touch, but, really, in most instances less is always more, especially when it comes to decorating entire buildings. Such ridiculous excesses put us in mind of our good friend Catherine DeNerve, who loves to remind people that San Francisco is a "cow town with an opera."

#### Flowers for a princess

Repulsed by the opera company's building-decorating spectacle, we headed over to Market Street to watch the candlelight memorial for Princess Diana. We had no intention of actually joining the procession down Market Street, but once we saw all those pictures of the late Princess of Wales we got all choked up and found ourselves following the crowd, estimated to be at least 10,000 strong. First, however, we stopped at a horrific little flower stand at Market and Van Ness, where the price-gouging help tried to sell us a crumpled sunflower for \$3.50. Outraged, we mumbled something about highway robbery, threw it down, and walked out. Though flowerless, we followed the crowd all the way down to the steps of the British Consulate, where we lit a candle and listened to the Glide Memorial Church Choir, which performed a moving musical tribute in memory of the late Princess. Note to Reverend Cecil Williams: it's Diana, not Diane.

In other Di news, the *Oily Avian One* called this week to tell us about a rumor currently bouncing off walls all over Hollywood. Apparently someone with a lot of money was dining at Kate Mantilini's exclusive Bev Hills cafe and just happened to overhear a table of movie execs kicking around the idea of a biopic on Diana's life. There was reportedly a lot of disagreement as to how to tell the story, but apparently everyone in the confab agreed on one thing: Sharon Stone is a shoo-in for the lead.

#### Bores and beauties

Though we didn't make it to last week's big opera gala, we did crash Wednesday's SF Symphony opener at Davies Hall, only we were so drunk we barely remember any of it, though we do recall bumping into several of the biggest *nomms* in San Francisco society, including: Wilhemina Craggott IX, on whose floor-length Vera Wang we spilled an entire tray of Algerian rabbit shanks swabbed in mustard sauce; Dodie Canzicran, whose maroon Jacques Azagury off-the-shoulder number featured a piece of half-eaten, greasy cheese as a fash-



Wilhemina Craggott IX

ion accessory after we brushed up against her; and Denis Pale, who may or may not know that her salmon and aubergine mousse-colored Richard Tyler bustier now bears a small cigarette burn near the right armpit. We didn't actually bump into the Ex's Cynthia Robins, though we assume from her color scheme for the evening, variations on a theme of car accident, that someone else did.

Yes, fashion plates were everywhere the eye could see last Wednesday, but the evening's most memorable bit of *haute couture* was offered by British violinist Nigel Kennedy, who showed up in a pair of too-short black velvet pants, a rumpled black jacket (parts of which he frequently used to wipe string rosin from his instrument), chunky black shoes, and a polka-dot vest. If you think this was strange, you should have heard his performance of the Beethoven Violin Concerto. Wrong, no; weird, yes.

Musical Director Michael Tilson Thomas was his usual model of taste and poise Wednes-

day, at least until he got to the evening's closer, Ottorino Respighi's *Roman Festivals*, whose bellicosity elicited from the conductor a whole series of outsize aerobic gestures, jigs, and various other on-podium terpsichorea. Hopefully no one misinterpreted the conductor's enthusiasm as an attempt to pass off this histrionic drivel as art. Tilson Thomas clearly programmed the piece for sheer theatrical effect, which explains why during a gala rehearsal he offered this helpful advice to the orchestra: "Just think of this as *Petrushka*, only heard over an Italian car radio."

#### Outrage in the park

Although Portia Capplethwaite wasn't at Davies Hall on Wednesday, the Human Shipwreck did make an appearance at the Examiner-sponsored Opera In the Park gig on Sunday, once again wearing her trademark ill-fitting, food-stained pink sundress and matching mouldering bonnet. And, if several eyewitness accounts are to be believed, Miss C. was, as usual, not happy. "I am outraged at this heterosexual drivel," the dipsomaniac keened after baritone James Morris performed an aria from *Carousel*. Apparently Miss C. was beside herself over a lyric in the Rodgers song that expresses concern over a boy growing up to "be a sissy."

"Why couldn't he sing something more culturally sensitive to San Francisco?" Capplethwaite screamed. "Doesn't he know queers live here?" Furthermore, she added, "It was interminable and he couldn't even sing it."

#### Hypocrite

Madonna has been showing off yet another persona lately, only we don't think Finger-waving Hall Monitor suits her well at all. At her appearance last week on the MTV Awards, the unsmiling pop star showed up in uncharacteristically doughty duds and pro-

page 54 ►



Hall monitor Ciccone.

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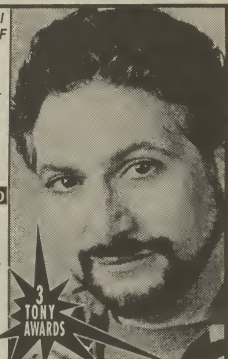
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A scene from *Love's Debris*.

## A night at the opera

### Werner Schroeter's 'Love's Debris'

by Gary Morris

Werner Schroeter's new film on love, death, and opera, *Love's Debris*, is especially welcome at the end of a cinematic summer filled with butt-kicking presidents, aerobized female Navy Seals, and a tiresome parade of car crashes and airplane blow-ups. Schroeter's focus on aging European divas, while ensuring a limited audience, is refreshingly perverse. And his leisurely, impressionistic narrative looks positively radical in an era when movie directors are routinely recruited from the crass entertainment netherworlds of television commercials and MTV.

The premise of *Love's Debris* is simple: assemble a group of opera singers, mostly female, in a ruined 13th-century abbey and ask them to perform and pontificate on subjects ranging from the source of their talent, to the inevitable

decline of their powers, to the nagging nearness of death. Roland Barthes' question, "Why and how do singers find their emotions in their voice?" is the film's starting point. To find answers, Schroeter asked legends like Martha Mödl, Rita Gorr, and Anita Cerquetti to pick a favorite aria to perform in the company of a wife, husband, lover, or anyone who has figured importantly in their lives. Contemporary singers like Kristine and Katherine Ciesinski, Gail Gilmore, and Jenny Drivala appear along with a pair of tenors, Laurence Dale and the robust Russian Sergei Larin.

While none of the performers in this ensemble piece could be called the star, Anita Cerquetti comes closest. During a somewhat testy interview, this megadiva, who looks like a Roman general in drag, tries to explain to French actress Carole Bouquet why she stopped singing at the height of her powers and career at age 29. "Life goes on. In life there isn't only singing." This comment informs the entire film. Schroeter tries to delve into the mysteries of the voice, but interrupts the quest by consistently cutting to images of the ancient, worn walls of the abbey and to the world outside,

poetically counterpointing a musical motif with a pink dawn spreading across the sky or a barge moving slowly upriver.

Cerquetti also has the film's single finest moment when she listens to her recording of "Casta Diva." Detached at first, she becomes increasingly swept up in the emotion of the song, just as the viewer does. Eventually, she's singing along with it, her lined face suffused with emotion as she makes a visible connection with her own past. Throughout the film, Cerquetti plays magnificently to the viewer's image of the grand diva ravaged by time and her own emotional turmoil: "Anguish, unfortunately, is a feeling I know well," she says, without self-pity. On the other hand, she shows a deep understanding of the power of the music and her gift to express it. "Others were feeling what I wanted them to feel," she says about the first time she sang before an audience. "This was a great discovery."

The no-nonsense Martha Mödl has a similarly powerful, if more understated scene in which she listens, with Isabelle Huppert, to a recording she made decades before of an aria from *Fidelio*.

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# Het attack

Richard Spence's 'Different for Girls'

by Matthew Kennedy

**D**ifferent for Girls has been making the rounds of queer film festivals this year, including San Francisco's, but the film, written and directed by BBC veterans Richard Spence and Tony Marchant, has precious little to do with homosexuality and plenty to do with heterosexual angst.

Paul Prentice (Rupert Graves) is 34 going on 16. Still immersed in the vestiges of '70s punk culture, he flits from one thankless job to the next, barely able to make enough money to pay his rent. When he chances upon Kim Foyle (Steven Mackintosh), a squarely built woman his same age, life suddenly changes. Turns out they were best buddies in school 15 years earlier, when Kim was the effeminate Karl, whom Paul was forever rescuing from the clutches of abusive teenagers. After years of torment, therapy, and surgery, Karl became Kim, a stable woman with a dull job writing verse for greeting cards. Though there were plenty of opportunities to do something unique with this gender-bending set-up, the filmmakers settle for a potboiler that functions as just so much advertising for heterosexual romance.

Ultimately, *Different for Girls* is a love story of opposites, with practical, smiling Kim falling for unshaven, scruffy Paul. He-man that he is, Paul reeks of motor oil and sweat and is forever bounding through buildings and streets like a frustrated gymnast. In a

moment of clarity, Kim pegs him as too much "chaos, trouble and fuss." But director Spence and writer Marchant tweak our expectations. This is no *La Cage aux Folles*, wherein the sexual iconoclast exposes the sneering, leering hypocrisy of tight-assed "normal" folks. Here the straight boy is the party boy and the transsexual is the one who yearns to be a wallflower. Alas, this isn't enough to make either character or the film very interesting.

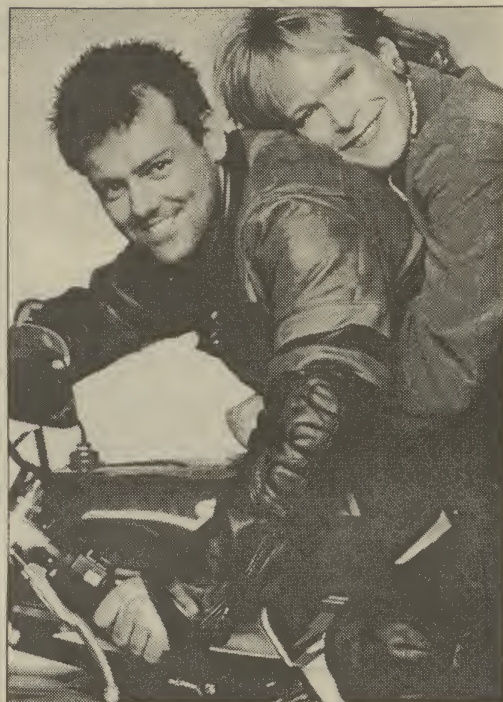
Although Spence and Marchant were careful to avoid cheap laughs at Kim's expense, Paul's character is poorly conceived. The chronology is wrong, with Paul a preppie schoolboy at 19. Did he turn into a punker before or after he befriended Karl? And how did he develop so many tiresome sexual phobias? He suffers a case of straight boy panic at the thought of being attracted to Kim. If he has such a hard time with his post-op buddy, why wasn't he one of the fag-bashers when they were in school? Any boy who stands up to a posse of young homophobes would surely grow up to have some sensitivity to a transsexual.

The actors do what they can. Steven Mackintosh (*London Kills Me*, *Memphis Belle*) is a fairly convincing woman of male origin. As Kim, he remains controlled, trying to suppress years of pain and complacency. Rupert Graves, the comely lad who dropped trou so effortlessly in *A Room With a View* and *Maurice*, stretches himself as the prickly, self-centered Paul. He must be trying for the Malcolm

McDowell Nude Frequency Award. His willie is free yet again in the film, but this time it's integral to the plot. Other players revolve around the leads. Miriam Margolyes makes only a minor impression as Kim's oversolicitous boss, and as Kim's sister Jean, Saskia Reeves gets embroiled in a paternity subplot that feels borrowed from another movie.

*Different for Girls* is an exercise in compensation. Paul tries too hard to retain youth and machismo, Kim tries too hard to be feminine and ordinary, and the filmmakers try too hard to break new ground with inferior material. They are all part of a dubious young tradition. There have been an awful lot of misguided and unlikely love stories lately that attempt to trade off their characters' unusual sexual proclivities, from the sexual tomfoolery of *Bliss* to the crossdressing of *Just Like a Woman* to the necrophiliac chic of *Kissed and Crash*. It seems the almost forgotten gender shocker *The Crying Game* has spawned a mini-genre of mutant flops straining to be kinky.

Add *Different for Girls* to the list. Beneath the frosting of a male-to-female heroine lies a pedestrian love story not very well told. Clichés come marching in, from overreactive, nosy co-workers and a biker gang, to police thugs who make us pity Kim when she would no doubt detest the sentiment. Falling in love is



Rupert Graves and Steven Mackintosh in *Different for Girls*.

accelerated by intrusive musical interludes, and though Paul's social retardation is never explained, Kim's inevitable liberation comes across as didactic and overblown.

Nevertheless, this isn't an all-out bad film. The sexual moments feel truly intimate, and somebody should take a bow for retooling Mackintosh's naked body. But the

film isn't funny or dramatic enough to really matter. It remains curiously uninvolved, yoked by conventional storytelling and a sadly predictable outcome. ▼

*Different for Girls* opens September 12 at the Lumiere.

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History of the (White) World: Venus Preferred to Christ, Paris, 1997, by Joel-Peter Witkin

## Strange voices

Photographs by Joel-Peter Witkin  
at Fraenkel Gallery

by Steven Jenkins

Several years ago I arranged an interview with New Mexico-based artist Joel-Peter Witkin while he was in town for an exhibition of his remarkable photographs. I approached our meeting with some trepidation, for Witkin's frightening, frequently grotesque yet technically unparalleled images had worked their way into my daydreams and nightmares. I was in fact psychologically and emotionally overwhelmed by Witkin's bizarre yet unabashedly beautiful depictions of masochists, hermaphrodites, dismembered corpses, and the physically deformed. At the same

time, I responded intellectually to their enormous challenges and rewards.

Still, on the day of our scheduled conversation I wanted to back out. I didn't want to meet the man responsible for co-opting my unconscious with visions of self-inflicted violence and extreme sexuality. But something unexpected happened: I was charmed by Witkin, and the interview was an unqualified success. He responded with bracing intelligence and animated enthusiasm to my queries, revealing a deeply humane and passionate sensibility that informs even his most off-putting images with something close to grace. Relieved and inspired by our meeting, I returned

home only to discover that, for the first and only time in my dozen years of interviewing artists, the tape recorder had malfunctioned and not one word of our conversation had been preserved on audiotape. I felt awful, both for botching my assignment and wasting his time, but Witkin insisted that the mishap occurred for some divine reason, and who were we to question the grand scheme of things? While not exactly a believer myself, I would have been foolish to disagree.

In the ensuing years I've made a point to see every exhibition of Witkin's work, believing that his willingness (or perhaps need) to push beyond boundaries of pro-

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The Shepherd's Sunday, Rome, (detail), 1996-97, by Joel-Peter Witkin.



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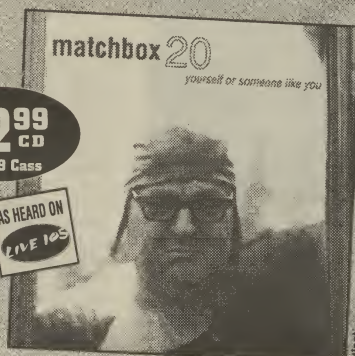
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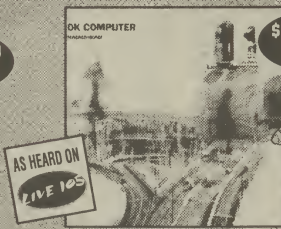
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# Double-dose mega-raves

Electronica festivals Big Top and Electric Highway come to Bay Area



British ambient-techno-trancers Loop Guru are slated to play at Big Top.

by Adrian Roberts

With just about any underground scene, it's usually only a matter of time before it eventually gets co-opted by the mainstream, especially scenes fostered and embraced by queers. It happened to disco in the '70s, and it's happening now to house and techno music.

Of course, this sort of dance music has been threatening to come above ground for several years, but with this weekend's double-dose of national mega-rave tours touching down in the Bay Area, it appears that electronica, otherwise known by the fashionably trendy moniker "electronica," is finally finding, for better or worse, mass appeal.

Think of Friday's Big Top tour and Saturday's Electric Highway tour as the Lollapalooza and H.O.R.D.E. festivals of electronic music. Both feature multiple stages, a plethora of national and local artists, a slew of DJs, and enough hypnotic and mesmerizing lights to amaze even the folks at George Lucas' ILM. Besides the music, the only real difference between these tours and, say, Lollapalooza, is that Big Top and Electric Highway are both all-night festivals, as opposed to Lolla's all-day thing. Thankfully, some things in dance culture have remained the same.

Friday's Big Top tour appears



Could The Crystal Method be the next Chemical Brothers?

to be the bigger and better of the two. Billed as "the largest and only all-night electronic music tour in American history," the 15-hour festival has a spectacular line-up of mid-tier electronica acts spanning the gamut of genres, including techno, house, drum 'n' bass, ambient, and trance. Many stellar British groups will be making their long-awaited West Coast debuts, including **Eat Static**, **Headrillaz**, **Twelvetees**, and **Empirion**. Other acts from across the pond include techno pioneers **808 State**, **Loop Guru**, **System 7**, **Banco De Gaia**, and **Medicine Drum**. New York techno poster-boy **Moby** will also make an appearance, along with locals **909 Mind**, **ETI**, **Tha Cyclops**, and **Beyond Race** with **Steve Pagan**.

Of course, what's a rave without DJs? Big Top has over 20 of the best, including **Juan Atkins**, **Derrick May**, and **Devin Saunderson**, who are considered by many to be the godfathers of Detroit techno. Also on the line-up is **Grooverider**, one of Britain's early pioneers of jungle music.

The only drawback to this event is that it's not happening outdoors or in some huge abandoned warehouse, like all good raves should. Instead, it's happening at the Oakland Event Center. Hopefully the much-ballyhooed light shows will transform the space into something a little less sterile.

Taking a rave outdoors doesn't necessarily make it better, especially if outdoors means Pier 45, deep in the heart of Fisherman's Wharf tourist hell. But that's exactly where the Electric Highway tour is landing. Still, it could be interesting. It's been a long time since there's been an outdoor rave event within the city limits, and with a great headliner like **The Crystal Method** (they're being buzzed as "the American **Chemical Brothers**") this should be a fun party. Other acts on the line-up include **Fluke** and **Arkarna** performing live, along with **Doc Martin**, **DJ Sneak**, **DJ Dan**, **Jeno**, **DJ Icey**, **Phunckatek**, **Noel**, **UFO**, and **Abstract**.

All in all, if it's been a while since you've danced all night while having your senses pummeled with massive sound systems and strobe lights, then this is your weekend to catch up. ▼

**Big Top happens Friday, September 12, from 9 p.m.—7 a.m., at the Oakland Event Center, 691 85th Ave. at Baldwin. Tickets are \$30. For more info, call 541-5030 or (510) 461-4422.**

**The Electric Highway tour is Saturday, September 13, from 5 p.m.—3 a.m., at Pier 45 in San Francisco. Tickets are \$25. For more info, call 267-7645 or (408) 236-2205.**



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## MUSIC

# Karaoke fashion show

## Pizzicato Five strut their stuff

by Steven Jenkins

The following review may irrevocably damage whatever street credibility I've managed to earn over the years, but I have to confess my eternal love of pure pop music. As a suburban nursery-schooler in the early 1970s, I was at my polyester-pants happiest singing along with The Partridge Family and listening to my sister's Fifth Dimension albums. Is it a crime that gorgeous melodies, love-is-all-around lyrics, and bright harmonies send me spin-drifting? Not that I don't also revel in Big Rock Noise, but it's hard, even these days, to deny the candy-coated pleasures of a three-minute gem like Hanson's "Where's the Love" (my current guilty pleasure).

So it was with much anticipation that I ventured down to the Great American Music Hall last week for a rare show by Pizzicato Five, the cool Japanese combo that plays a kitschy pastiche of international and American pop with real charm. Popular in Japan since the early '80s, Pizzicato Five broke through on these shores a few years ago with *Made in U.S.A.*, an appealing collection of groovy '60s-style dance tunes like "Baby Love Child" and the underground hit "Twiggy Twiggy." The band's Viva Las Vegas, James-Bond-meets-Björk-in-Tokyo sthick arrived in clubs as a refreshingly

angst-free antidote to grunge.

Billed as "The Great Pizzicato Five Picnic '97," this sold-out audiovisual extravaganza certainly was something to see, yet the band unfortunately chose to bury its pop smarts beneath pre-recorded, disco-inferno backing tracks and squealing rock-stud guitar squalls. Preceded by a 15-minute aural collage featuring song snippets, *Star Trek* theme music, and a squaresville stereophonic announcer proclaiming "the age of space is here," the show proper began when P5 master-

sang her way through several indistinguishable songs from the band's just-released CD, *Happy End of the World*. Throughout the 80-minute set she and Konishi frequently changed costumes, frugging in go-go boots and leisure suits, kimonos, and purple wigs. They worked hard to appear carefree as they pulled out props for each number, while behind them screened a perfectly synchronized montage of video clips that included images of everything from Carmen Miranda to flying saucers and plane crashes,

**On a gimmicky level it was fabulous, musically it was lacking.**

mind Konishi bounded on stage waving Pizzicato signs and flags. With his Beatles haircut, goatee, and nerdy horn-rims, Konishi resembled a cheer-leading Austin Powers, only with pompoms and a letterman sweater. In total contrast was the band's bald, bare-chested, multi-pierced guitarist, whose name I didn't catch amidst the feedback din.

But the star of the show was Nomiya, P5's alluring, chameleon-like diva, who was carried in on the shoulders of a burly roadie. Bedecked in sequins and feathers, and twirling a baton that sent fairy dust flying, Nomiya vamped and vogued and sort of

train derailments and the Pizzicatos themselves posing for photographs in exotic locales.

On a certain gimmicky level all of this was pretty fabulous, but musically the show was lacking. The infectiously merry single "Happy Sad" aside, the band's silly but smart razzle-dazzle couldn't overcome the combination of pre-recorded rhythm tracks, annoyingly loud jack-off guitar licks, and Nomiya's weak vocals. Like many well-intentioned picnics, P5's ultimately disappointed with the sonic equivalent of lost car keys, melted brie, and ants swarming the Chips Ahoy. ▼



Maki Nomiya and Yasuharu Konishi of Pizzicato Five.

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# Party on!

## Gala concert opens SFO's 75th season

by Paul Thomason

When the final chapter is written on the years Lotfi Mansouri served as General Director of the San Francisco Opera, perhaps his greatest legacy will turn out to be the stunningly successful refurbishing of the War Memorial Opera House. Unveiled at a gala concert last Friday, the beautiful Beaux Arts theater sparkled and glowed. Few other opera houses in the U.S. have managed to be both so elegant and welcoming at the same time. It is the perfect combination for an opera house, beautifully re-

flecting the best of San Francisco itself.

The gala was also a celebration of the San Francisco Opera's 75th season, and in some ways reflected the state of the opera company today. That the company pulled off such a smoothly run opening night while rehearsing three complete operas, within only a few weeks of moving back into the War Memorial, is nothing short of a miracle. Every member of the staff deserves a hearty "Bravo!"

If the gala did not offer much in the way of truly spectacular singing, the general level of music-making was at least gratifyingly high, with only a few seri-

ous missteps.

Without a doubt it was soprano Deborah Voigt (newly slimmed and looking spectacular in shades of purple) and Plácido Domingo who stole the show vocally. Both were in radiant voice, and their rendition of the end of Act I of Wagner's *Die Walküre* made one weep that they have not performed the whole opera here. Is there another tenor in the world today who can sing Siegmund with the warmth, richness, and heroic ping Domingo displayed Friday?

Appropriately, Voigt opened the concert with Elizabeth's "Dich, teure Halle" from Wagner's



Deborah Voigt

*Tannhäuser*, recalling her last appearance with the company, in 1994. In an absolutely perfect world the soprano's opulent voice would have an ecstatic edge to it, a more pointed focus to the emotional intensity. But even so, she is one of the greatest singers in the world today, and the fact that her appearances with the SF Opera have become so rare is a scandal. Once upon a time, an artist of Voigt's caliber would be asked to try out new roles here, and the company would seize the opportunity to stage unfamiliar operas for her. The fact that opera lovers have to go to New York, London, Vienna or Munich to hear Voigt in operas like *Ariadne*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *The Flying Dutchman*, and *Elektra* is unconscionable. Donald Runnicles, who conducted most of the evening, and the SF Opera Orchestra did their best work in the two Wagner excerpts.

Frederica von Stade took top honors for acting and charm. Wearing what looked like a brightly patterned bustier with a man's tailcoat and pants, she turned a false entrance in the "Habanera" from Bizet's *Carmen* into not one but two delightful moments. Her "Habanera" was more a tribute to Maurice Chevalier than the opening salvo of a fate-crossed, passionate gypsy, but von Stade made a good case for her interpretation.

Only two singers, Ruth Ann Swenson and Richard Margison, roused the rather quiet but attentive audience into calling them back for a second bow. Swenson's "Qui la voce" from Bellini's *I Puritani* offered secure technique and delightful, unusual embellishments, though perhaps too little emotional involvement. (Her sympathetic conductor was Richard Bonygne in his only musical outing of the evening.) Mar-

gison's rendition of "Nessun dorma" from Puccini's *Turandot* was perhaps his best work with the company in the last few years. It was masculine, heroic, and fearlessly sung.

Unfortunately, Puccini's music accounted for more than a third of the rather unimaginative musical program. (There was no Mozart, no Richard Strauss, no Baroque opera, no Rossini.) Excerpts from *Tosca* were performed by Carol Vaness ("Vissi d'arte") and James Morris ("Te Deum"). Neither sounded as good on Friday as they did the following night when the two singers performed the opera. What a wasted opportunity to have two considerable artists singing the same music on a gala that they're offering in eight performances of *Tosca*. Puccini was also represented by the two arias and duet which end Act I of *La Bohème*, giving both Patricia Racette and Jerry Hadley (stepping-in for Richard Leech) an opportunity to shine.

Hadley returned for a self-indulgent and stylistically schizophrenic "Una furtiva lagrima" from Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*. Also distressing was Marilyn Horne's rendition of "Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix" from Saint-Saëns' *Samson et Dalila*. Why one of the great singers of the century would choose this aria at such a late stage of her career is a mystery. It appeared to cause her as much discomfort as it caused her admirers. (Horne's conductor was none other than Michael Tilson Thomas in a surprise appearance.)

In addition to *Samson et Dalila* and *Carmen*, French opera was also represented by Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*, from which Janet Williams sang "Je veux vivre."

The single bass aria on the concert was Samuel Ramey's excerpt from Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov*, which was unhelpfully identified in the program booklet as "Boris' monologue," as if there were only one. (Ramey sang the aria known in English as "I have attained the highest power.") It had little impact.

The company's usual Verdi curse was evident during the composer's only work of the evening: Don Carlo's duet "Dio, che nell'alma infondere." Richard

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# No-nonsense Tosca

Carol Vaness has the chops

by Paul Thomason

To succeed on stage, Puccini's *Tosca* needs a soprano who can both sing and act the title role. Since the opera is a popular one, plenty of sopranos get hired to sing the part, but few are truly satisfying. Last Saturday when the San Francisco Opera unveiled its new production of *Tosca* as the first complete opera of its 75th season, it was clear by the end of Act II that Carol Vaness was more than satisfying. She was superb.

Every moment Vaness was on stage she was involved with the role, constantly reacting to her colleagues and the unfolding drama. Intensely feminine, always believable, hers was a *Tosca* truly in love with Cavaradossi (tenor Richard Margison). Even her murder of Scarpia (baritone James Morris) emerged as a natural outgrowth of the action. All evening Vaness took uncommon care to mold phrases and color words. One example: The love and tenderness with which she filled the phrase beginning "Gli occhi ti chiuderò con mille baci" at the end of the Act III love duet seemed almost unbearably poignant.

This is a *Tosca* who can actually sing the part, not belt it out in the misguided assumption that "verismo opera" equals bad singing. Vaness even chose to sing, rather than speak, *Tosca's* famous Act II line "E avanti a lui tremava tutta Roma!" Which is not to imply Vaness' acting was deficient. She raced about the stage, lunged over furniture, hurled props, and hammered her fists on Scarpia's chest with the best of them. But her actions never called attention to themselves because they were exactly right for that moment in the drama.

If one occasionally wished for a bit more vocal left, she could at least be consistently heard, and hearing Vaness' lyric-spinto voice in the role rather than a dramatic soprano's added to the believability

of the character. She also looked radiant, every inch the most famous prima donna of her time. How wonderful to experience Vaness' artistry once again at the peak of its powers.

The rest of the cast was not up to her level. The role of Scarpia sits too high for James Morris' voice, though he has learned to finagle his way through the role. If he barked more than one wished, at least he wasn't crude. But Morris brought a wonderful, delicious quality to Scarpia's sadism. This Scarpia was always in control, playing with everyone and absolutely relishing the pain he caused. One seldom gets a Scarpia-*Tosca* combination that is so satisfying, natural, and seemingly spontaneous.

Unfortunately, Richard Margison's Cavaradossi never rose above the level of workmanlike. His singing was blunt and without a bit of finesse, as was his acting. But you could always hear him. Alfonso Antoniazzi was an uncommonly good Sacristan, offering a funny, wonderfully delineated character rather than the stereotypical caricature one usually encounters. And how nice to hear a Sacristan who can actually sing the part.

Alas, conductor Nello Santi's pacing of the opera made me wish I had brought my Dramamine. Much of the evening the opera lurched between too fast and too slow. Banal musical phrases were lingered over as if they were rare melodic jewels. Santi did accompany Vaness' exquisite "Vissi d'arte" quite well and stayed with Vaness and Morris as they built the climax to Act II. When he entered the pit for the beginning of Act III, the audience gave him something of an ovation.

The production by Lotfi Mansouri, with sets and costumes by Thierry Bosquet, is based on the *Tosca* production by Armando Agnini with which the company opened the War Memorial Opera House in 1932. Historic recre-

ations can sometimes look cheap and shabby (the company's *Rosenkavalier*, for example), but this one works beautifully. It looks gorgeous and substantial without overwhelming the singers or the drama. It should serve both *Tosca* and the company well for seasons to come. *Bravi tutti.* ▼

Performances of *Tosca* continue in repertoire at the War Memorial Opera House through October 2. Starting times vary. For tickets (\$22-\$145) and information, call (415) 864-3330 or visit the San Francisco Opera's website ([www.sfopera.com](http://www.sfopera.com)).



Carol Vaness and Richard Margison in *Tosca*.

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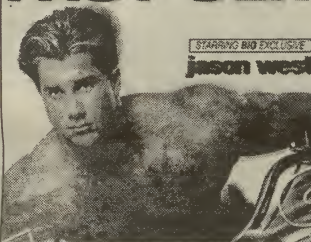
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Nigel Kennedy

## Smiling faces

Kennedy, MTT throw best party in years

by Philip Campbell

The San Francisco Symphony's 86th musical season opened last week with a musical celebration that found Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas in predictably dynamic form and guest artist Nigel Kennedy adding more than a dash of unconventional flair to an already brilliant show.

Unlike the Circus Maximus atmosphere of opening night at the opera, the SF Symphony opens aim for — and usually achieve — a kind of restrained elegance. The evening's decor, by ubiquitous society florist Stanlee Gatti, included thousands of red anthuriums and palm leaves, a color scheme that followed through to the handkerchief in Tilson Thomas' breast pocket and the cheery balloons dropped at the concert's close.

But where this year's party re-

ally excelled was in the music-making. The program started with a brief but electrifying fanfare on Themes from *La Celestina*, an opera-in-progress begun in 1980 by Joaquin Maria Nin-Culmell, who now resides in Oakland. Tilson Thomas commissioned the fanfare, which is dedicated to the memory of the composer's friend Gail Schwarzbart, a violinist who played with the orchestra for 29 years.

Next, flamboyant British violinist Nigel Kennedy made his way to the stage to deliver a marvelously thoughtful rendition of the Beethoven Violin Concerto. Though absent from the concert stage for more than five years, it's obvious that Kennedy didn't stop practicing midst his hiatus. As in previous visits, Kennedy proved an appealing, pleasantly earthy presence. His humorous verbal asides were appreciated by the crowd, and the performance itself was remarkable for its technical

polish and insightfulness.

Kennedy performed an encore, a blues duet, with bassist Michael Burr. Reportedly, he ended his evening jamming at Pearl's jazz club in North Beach. Impromptu gigs like this once played a hand in building Kennedy's status as an unpredictable *enfant terrible*, only now they seem to confirm his aversion to stereotyping and reveal his stature as a genuine musician.

The second half of the bill allowed the maestro to reclaim the spotlight. His unselfish support of Nigel Kennedy showed his real desire to let the violinist shine, but only Tilson Thomas in high theatrical mode could save Ottorino Respighi's *Roman Festivals* from sounding like hopeless kitsch.

Third in the incredibly popular series that began with the *Pines of Rome* and the *Fountains of Rome*, *Festivals* displays Respighi's waning inspiration as a composer, though it does amply show off his legendary skill as an orchestrator. It's all very bright, and the last movement, "Epiphany," with its madly colliding dance and folk tunes, sounds for all the world like a vacationing Charles Ives, drunk on cheap wine and pizza.

Still, the orchestra managed splendidly, and it was a pleasure to watch the lithe Tilson Thomas in athletic abandon on the podium. The pomp surrounding the re-opening of the revamped War Memorial Opera House will likely eclipse this opening, but if the satisfied grins on patrons' faces meant anything, this was the best SF Symphony opening in years. ▼

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## Opera gala

◀ page 42

Margison and Paolo Gavanelli bawled their way through the music and managed to completely ignore each other in what is only one of the greatest male-bonding scenes in all of opera. (Plácido Domingo was the conductor.)

The printed program ended with the world premiere of a piece commissioned by the SF Opera from Jake Heggie, a member of its public relations department whose works have been increasingly programmed by internationally known singers such as Frederica von Stade, Renee Fleming, and others. Written to a text by the composer, "So Many Notes!" was an enjoyable *pièce d'occasion* performed by 11 past and present Adler Fellows. The singers then joined the SF Opera Chorus in a bit from Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* with words rewritten for the occasion — an appropriate end to the gala.

Throughout the evening, tribute was paid to the many singers who have come through SF Opera's Merola and Adler programs. Which made the absence of former Merolini Dolora Zajick and Thomas Hampson all that more noticeable. And why in the name of St. Cecilia was Elena Zarembo, who is one of the most riveting singers on the stage today and who's in town for *Rigoletto* rehearsals, not performing at the gala? The evening was taped for broadcast on PBS later this season. ▼



# Postmodern poesies

## 'Conspirators of Pleasure' at the Red Vic

by Gary Morris

Forget "magic realism." This is magic surrealism of the highest order. Czech filmmaker Jan Svankmajer owes a debt, which he pays in the closing credits of *Conspirators of Pleasure*, to Bunuel and Max Ernst, but also to Freud, Sade, and Sacher-Masoch. This brilliantly inspired story of the daily life of six fetishists in Prague resonates with what Andre Breton called "convulsive beauty" — specifically, the transformation of a dreary, dead culture into a wonderland of bizarre personal rituals, mechanical sex devices, fish, feathers, and fur. Fans of Survival Research Laboratories will find much to admire here, but Svankmajer's vision is in some ways more comic and

despairing, using its pathetic robots, dolls, animals, and animal parts to form a devastating social critique.

In the Prague of the film there is literally no dialogue, only musical backgrounds and ambient sounds — and therefore no communication. The dissolution of society represented here has inspired some of the more driven of the citizenry to weave a new kind of social fabric, one that replaces human warmth and interaction with an easier mechanical version. A magazine seller is in love with a beautiful blonde newscaster. Since real contact is obviously impossible, he devises an elaborate system of mechanical hands that he attaches to the TV. While the blonde recounts the news, he stands before her kissing the television while being caressed by his mind-

lessly moving fake hands.

If the petit-bourgeois are secretly reconstructing social relationships in the hidden and cramped quarters of a store, local officials are equally susceptible to the lure of the object as a pathway to pleasure. A local cop, no doubt inspired by the violence of his work, embeds nails in a rolling pin, which he slides up and down himself in a nod to religious martyrdom. He's in fact multitasking, creating a self-tickling device made of the cut-off fingers of rubber gloves, with a bit of fur thrown in for good measure. His wife is the newscaster beloved by the magazine seller, but while hubby is busy tickling and torturing himself, what's she up to? What else? In another room, she's having her toes sucked by a fish.

The lives of Svankmajer's characters are absurdly narrow. In the opening sequence we see a man kill a chicken, an act for which he does a kind of penance by fashioning an elaborate chicken head out of the pages of a porn magazine, among other ingredients. He wears this head, along with bat wings, in a dazzling scene in which he attempts to "murder" a life-size doll that is the likeness of a hated female neighbor. (It's implied that he hates her because she rejected him.) While the orchestration of effects here — the smashed emotions rechanneled into absurd violence, the pitiful



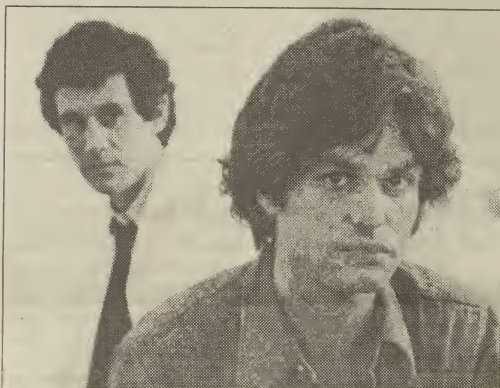
From Jan Svankmajer's *Conspirators of Pleasure*.

entrapment of the doll — is brutal and disturbing, there's also a palpable poignancy, as Svankmajer animates the doll, forcing the audience to confront its terror and bloody destruction.

The director balances this event with its obverse: the hated neighbor, a middle-aged blonde woman, has made her own mannequin, a dead ringer for the man with the chicken head, which she furiously pursues through her grimy basement. Her whip rips holes in its straw-filled back. Svankmajer's replacement of the human being with an inanimate, terrorized double is both hilarious and shocking, implying a world of desperate de-

humanization. While the director keeps his human characters mostly expressionless — except when they're in the throes of their fetish — his dolls and mannequins have a kind of naked anguish that puts the film in a category all its own. In this postmodern Grand Guignol, the mail worker who sucks hundreds of small bread-balls into her nose, then blows them back out with a sigh, is just icing on a crazy cake. ▼

*Conspirators of Pleasure* is at the Red Vic Theatre, 1727 Haight Street. Call 668-8999 for information.



Michael Ontkean and Harry Hamlin in *Making Love*.

## Kiss is not a kiss

◀ Arts cover

(1993), where we must take the word of the gay partners that they love each other because the filmmakers didn't have the guts to offer the visual evidence. *The Birdcage* (1996) brought huge rewards to its investors, but no one believed the "loving relationship" between the two male principals because they're not remotely affectionate. *To Wong Foo* (1995) offers similar distortions, relying on sensitive, "thoughtful" drag queens to repair the stupidities of the straight world while exhibiting none of their own basic human urges.

An alternative strategy to total suppression is the kiss that is threatened but never materializes, as in *Victor/Victoria* (1982). James Garner plays literal straight man to the dazzling genderfuck world of cabaret and to Julie Andrews' mystery-gendered singer. He's totally turned on to Julie-as-a-man but agonizes over the homosexual implication. The film accommodates viewer prejudices by delaying their kiss until after he's verified that Julie is really a girl.

Most commonly, the queer kiss is a downbeat decorative motif signaling a world out of control. In *The Detective* (1968), a closeted fag-killer (William Windom) is shown wandering through the demimonde of New York's sexual underground. A scintillating background view of two men kissing is quickly undercut by Windom's murderous mental breakdown. In Scorsese's *After Hours* (1985), which chron-

icles the black-comic descent into hell of a young New Yorker, two leather queens can be seen smooching in the background of one scene, a sure sign to the audience that there is something radically wrong. In the Dirty Harry epic *Magnum Force* (1973), a gay cop kisses his dead lover's lips, an act apparently so repugnant it immediately triggers his own murder. The homo-inflected Mafia "kiss of death" — wherein the kissees is dispatched shortly after — appears in a number of movies, but in *The Brotherhood* (1968) it was actually part of the poster art, which was designed to seduce and terrify with its sense of transgression. The same year, *The Sergeant* featured another brutal kiss, the grim culmination of the violent repression of a mincing, aging military man played by Rod Steiger.

Perhaps for now the last word on the subject belongs not to *In & Out* but to John Waters. His 1971 *Multiple Maniacs* features a criminal traveling circus headed by Divine. Her shtick is to lure unsuspecting suburbanites into her tents with "shocking" sex-and-fetish acts, then rob and kill them. When the prospect of "puke eaters, lesbians, and mental patients" fails to entice a reluctant couple, the circusmaster (David Lochary) trots out the final horror: "Two actual queers kissing each other like lovers on the lips! These are actual queers!" Waters hilariously counterpoints the on-lookers' screams of horror with a close-up of the queers in question, unapologetically French-kissing with all the sweat and heat that should accompany the act. ▼

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## East side poet

by Dan Blue

Love is Hard Work: *Memorias de Loisaída* by Miguel Algarín; Scribner, \$25

Miguel Algarín never spells it out, but it appears from his new book of poems that he is in the later stages of AIDS. If so, *Love is Hard Work* says goodbye to this world. This is his life flashing before his eyes, these poems his last will and testament.

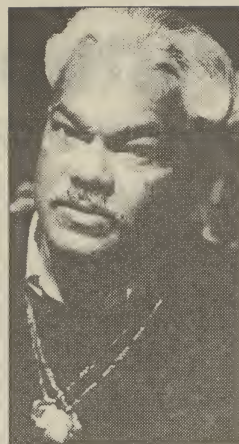
In the '60s, Algarín co-founded the Nuyorican Poets Cafe, a haven for live poetry. A friend remembers him then as "the young black-haired, slim-waisted Miguel with the glistening mustache, shining teeth, and bright angel's eyes." Thirty years later, he's an English professor at Rutgers, he's won an Obie, a Bessie, and four American Book Awards. But he's kept to his Puerto Rican roots and remains poet laureate of New York's Lower East Side, which he spells "Loisaída" and pronounces "Low-eas-side-a." In fact, the Bay Area knows him best as co-editor of the decidedly nonprofessional *Aloud: The Nuyorican Poets Cafe Anthology*, a local bestseller and a staple at Mission coffeehouses.

In his introduction, black poet Ishmael Reed describes Algarín as a man of hearty appetites, one who believes that "the poet is the professor of the five senses, so he savors each day as though it were a large spicy meal." Algarín is by temperament carnal, always sniffing the air for physical specifics.

"There is a word for the smell of love," he observes. He's also a pinwheel of passions, blowing up at injustices, melting over home-made jam.

Given these enthusiasms, Algarín is horrified by a disease which can render flesh poisonous. "Sometimes I fear touching your plump ear lobes," he confides. "I might contaminate you." He considers a terrible farewell to the flesh and remembers an accident when he forgot himself and came on a partner. Frantically he dabs at the HIV-laden semen ("Wipe, wipe, wipe") and rages at the disease that violates his sense of self. No one evokes better than he the physical shame and terror which can accompany AIDS. "I am unsafe," he proclaims.

He closes the book with "Nuyorican Kaddish," a sequence of tributes to the people in his life who have passed to the other side. Prominent here are family members and particularly his father, whom he memorializes in some of the most intense poems in the book. He also remembers famous friends who have died, like choreographer Alvin Ailey, and lesser-knowns, including Lucky Cienfuegos ("The Man of a Hundred Fires"). So many people he knew have passed "the flatline" that it



Miguel Algarín

seems part of life itself to cross over and join them.

In Algarín, the professor and the street poet complement one another. His pieces are studded with "popular" lines that are likely to score in a cafe, but he embeds them in thoughtful pieces written by one who knows his trade. Their ultimate bedrock is Loisaída and the realities that abide there. We might call his subjects friendship, sex, love, food, but these are mere words. Algarín forks over the thing itself. Here is life, he says. Here is what I loved. ▼

## Blood ties

by Dan Blue

Fatal Extraction: *The Story Behind the Florida Dentist Accused of Infecting His Patients with HIV and Poisoning Public Health*, by Mark Carl Rom; Jossey-Bass, \$16.95

In 1990, Kimberly Bergalis, a college student in Florida, accused her dentist of infecting her with AIDS. This was the first documented instance of a health-care worker transmitting HIV to a patient, and the nation reacted with panic. Soon, five other people claimed they had been infected by the same dentist. Public frenzy centered on the photogenic Bergalis, who blamed the U.S. government for failing to protect her. Eventually she appeared before Congress to demand universal testing of healthcare workers. Leaders like Robert Dannemeyer and Jesse Helms attempted to oblige.

The case transfixed the nation, not to mention the gay community, yet few people today remember the outcome. In his careful and scrupulously fair book *Fatal Extraction*, Mark Carl Rom, who served as investigator for the General Accounting Office, repeats his findings for the general reader.

In a chapter entitled "Sex," Rom presents the principal characters in this real-life detective story. We meet Bergalis herself, who resented questions about her sex life as an invasion of privacy. We get briefer portraits of the other plaintiffs, including one who (according to his lawyer) "had affairs with everything that walked." Every participant had reasons to lie, and Rom presents the frustrations of researchers who had to investigate leads on their sex and drug backgrounds. Eventually the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) interviewed the accused, Dr. David Acer, who in

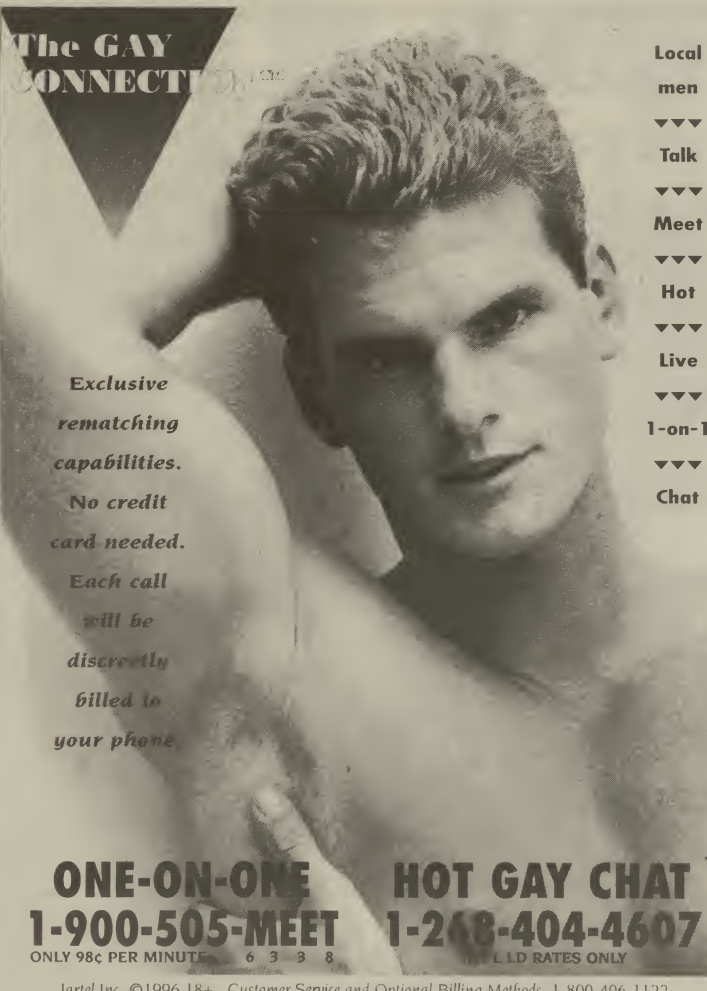
happier times had billed himself as "The Painless Dentist." A gay man in his final months with AIDS, Acer professed horror and disbelief that he might have passed the virus to his patients.

The "smoking gun" in this mystery turned out to be a blood sample drawn from the dentist. Researchers at Los Alamos identified a signature sequence in its genetic code that allowed them to link it with HIV taken from Bergalis and other patients. For the first time in the epidemic, doctors proved chemically that one specific person had infected another.

The issue now moved from "Who did it?" to "How did it happen?" Rom presents four possibilities — sex, accident, tainted equipment, or murder. Each of these scenarios is shown to be hopelessly implausible, even though one of them must be true.

Rom investigates ways the public received the news, and describes the legal repercussions, which wound their way through agencies and courts. Patients and healthcare workers each feared they would receive the virus from the other. The public demanded preemptive action while experts refused to respond without data.

Rom is a fine storyteller, and he presents this complex history simply and clearly. Though he doesn't directly address the gay community, many of us have an interest and will find this book valuable. Policy wonks will like the legal sections, and mystery fans will prefer the earlier discussions of sex, science, and the investigation into the evidence. Those not satisfied with the usual "blood-and-sperm" transmission scenario will note with interest that the case remains unsolved. As Dr. Harold Jaffe of the CDC acknowledged, "Something strange happened in that dental practice, and I wish I knew what it was." ▼



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## BOOKS

# Herstory revisited

by Deborah Peifer

Inside Ms.: 25 Years of the Magazine and the Feminist Movement  
by Mary Thom; Henry Holt, \$25

There is a wonderful scene in the second act of Jane Wagner's play *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* when Lyn, the character through whom Wagner traces the history of the women's movement, comes running in to share with her friends the premier issue of *Ms.* magazine. I suspect that for feminists of a certain age, the publication of a national magazine unabashedly feminist in content and outlook was a symbol of hope for change in the world. I can remember vividly one of my college roommates coming home from class with that first issue in 1972. Several of us chipped in for a subscription, because we counted on the magazine to confirm our experiences, widen our feminist vision, and remind us that we were not alone in our understanding of what was wrong with the world.

It was *Ms.* that offered a short-hand expression, the "click," for that all-important moment of realization when subtle sexism became painfully apparent. As explained in a wise and funny article by Jane O'Reilly ("The Housewife's Moment of Truth"), the realization for some women came with the automatic assumption that any doctor was a him; any professional, a man; and any adult female, a girl.

The women of *Ms.* looked hard at rape, at spousal abuse, at salary inequity, and at the inequality of women, and they didn't like what they saw. Thanks to *Ms.*, neither did its readers.

Mary Thom's history of *Ms.* magazine is a remarkable recounting of 25 years of the feminist movement and the extraordinary role that *Ms.* played in making feminism a national, and later an international, movement. Reading Thom's history, I was amazed to discover just how many facts I learned from *Ms.* and how many articles I could still remember a quarter century later. In its

early days, *Ms.* was the voice crying in the wilderness, and we devoured its pages.

Thom takes us back to the dark days when "woman's magazine" meant recipes, makeup tips and 101 ways to make your man happy, mostly by being a doormat. She looks at the magazine from its earliest gestation through the trials and traumas involved in doing feminism on the job while trying to publish a feminist magazine. She relates anecdotes that are both funny and painful, sometimes both at the same time, and reminds us all of the importance of *Ms.* and its staffers in the early days of the women's movement. Of all the heroes named in her account, Gloria Steinem stands out as both chief cheerleader and icon general for a magazine that tried hard to avoid hierarchy.

Steinem was more than just one of the founders of the magazine. A beautiful woman with a wicked sense of humor and lots of smarts, she was the public face of feminism men could approve, and in the early days that meant that hers was the face newspapers and magazines wanted to feature. That Steinem was much more of a threat to the boys than they realized, and much more radical than they imagined a beautiful straight woman could be, was a nice extra touch. Throughout the 25-year-history of *Ms.*, it was Steinem who found a way to keep things together when it looked like the magazine would surely go under.

When *Ms.* was in dire straits in the late '80s, Steinem once again endeavored to find a way for the magazine to continue. The story is told by feminist Robin Morgan, who agreed with Steinem that "if we let [*Ms.*] go, they'll say the movement is dead." So she said, "Why don't you think of being editor." And I got hysterical. I almost slid off my chair." Morgan protested that she knew nothing about editing a magazine, but Steinem told her to think of it as

an anthology, except shorter and it comes out more regularly.

Throughout its life, *Ms.* has gone to the brink more than once, and each time it has been the insistence of its readers and writers that kept the magazine alive. *Inside Ms.* is a readable and entertaining reminder of where we've been, how much has changed, and just how far we have to go as participants in the continuing feminist project. I stopped reading *Ms.* in the '80s during my separatist period, when it was just a little too straight for my tastes. Thom's book makes me think that I might be missing something and that I should start reading *Ms.* regularly again. ▼



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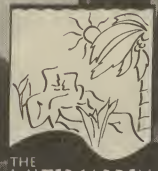
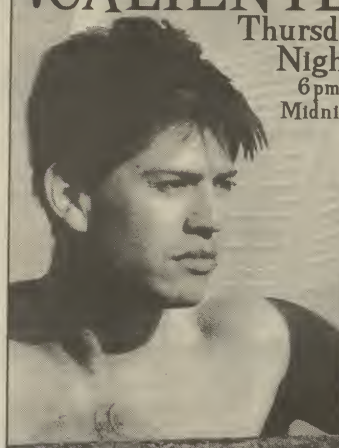
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## Love's Debris

◀ page 36

During a talk with Schroeter and Huppert, she expresses her dislike of "perfection," because "much emotion gets lost."

If the holy trinity of opera comprised of Cerquetti, Modl, and Rita Gorr represents the film's high points, Schroeter's occasional pomp and pretense undermine other sequences. While the singers were told to choose their favorite aria and costumes, surely Schroeter could have intervened when Laurence Dane arrived in pancake makeup, shrieking about an aria. Some fans have also objected to the fact that the director painfully reprises some of Dane's failed high notes, rubbing his (and our) nose in an obvious musical mistake. Another bizarre moment is Schroeter's too-long embrace of Anita Cerquetti: it looks like Her Heftiness is trying desperately to extricate herself from a berserk fan. It doesn't help that he then kneels before her and sticks his head in her lap.

If "opera" and "queer" are inextricably linked terms, Schroeter finds amusingly weird ways to play

off them. The Ciesinski sisters portray ornately dressed lesbians, serenading each other up and down staircases, hugging romantically, and kissing each other on the lips between musical phrases. Most curious, though, is the sequence with sexy Sergei Larin, who discusses romantic poetry with an unidentified Italian twink. Larin is married with children, but this scene has led some to believe that *Love's Debris* is his coming out. And no wonder. His pursuit of the twink, characterized by longing looks, a bedroom pursuit, and robust, lyrical declarations of "I love you!" is charged with eroticism.

*Love's Debris* never quite answers the question about how singers find emotion in their voices, a failure Martha Modl shrugs off with bracing directness when she says, "I don't know myself how I sing." Modl's vibrancy and power even at age 83 suggest that such voices are as timeless as the abbey in which they were recorded; they need no justification or explanation. ▼

*Love's Debris* opens Friday,  
September 12 at the Opera  
Plaza Cinemas.

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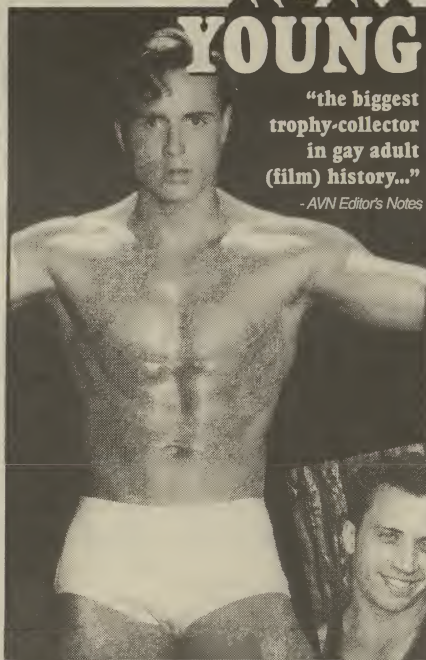
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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Groovy grampaw

## Men with pipes

We know a few lovelies who will only listen to brilliant women vocalists, but for those of us who hear and enjoy them, charismatic male singers have sure been in abundance around here lately. Let's start with Beck out in Oakland a few weeks back, the only musical genius we know who can both twang a la country and breakdance. He even managed to fill the Coliseum, a barn better suited to b-ball than b-boys, with a groovy sound.

David Byrne one more time: well, snore, but you know, talent will out. We cared about his new CD for about one minute, but the man does have a songbook, which he showed off at the Warfield. He brought us New Wave for brainyboys, so that's cool. He also does that musical ethnographer thing, and we love him for it.

Apropos world music, we went to the Gilberto Gil concert at the Masonic Auditorium with photographer Rick Gerharter, who had seen him play a high school gym or something in Brazil. Gilberto was on fire, and the semitropical audience was right there with him, screaming along in Portuguese. He and his band built polyrhythmic beats that carried us all away. He also did amazing covers of Bob Marley and Stevie Wonder, talking of charismatic male singers. By the by, Rick says there are Masons even in Cuba.

Now here comes David Bowie, playing the Warfield next week. For tickets: fergeddaboutit. They sold out exactly seven minutes after ticket extortionist BASS opened, and as the young woman in front of us in line said, "Buzzkill." We don't know if you saw him on SNL a few months ago, but he looks like someone's groovy grampaw, the kind of septuagenarian who still does orange hair-rinses and bong hits. His new album is great in a stinging, propulsive sort of way, and seeing him in a non-stadium would be like going to tea with Mark Twain. But we won't pay a scalper our first-born, so no dice. ▼

## Fri

### Book Sale

33rd annual Friends of the Library Book Sale, free. Fri.-Sun. Fort Mason.

### Colonial Noir

SF photographer Reid Yalom's pictures of Mexico. Reception tonight, 5:30pm; thru 11/1. Sightings Gallery, 435 Bryant. 546-1132.

### Daniel Kallok

Sings My Mouth and Welcome to It, a work-in-progress. \$5-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Ctr., 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

### Dating 101

Dating and Flirting 101 for Lesbians. \$10. 7pm. Two Sisters Bookshop, 605 Cambridge, Menlo Park. 442-4848.

### En Drag

Seven of SF's finest female impersonators, hosted by Chablis and Alexandra. \$7. 9, 10 & 11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

### Fringe Festival

6th Annual SF Fringe Fest: 50 theatre companies in 260 performances, including Cervix With a Smile and Titsy the Clown. Thru 9/14, call hotline for times and venues. 673-3847.

### Gay Comedy Gold

Gay comics Suzy Berger and Scott Capurro. Wed.-Sun. at 10pm thru 9/12. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Last Sunday In June

Leon Acord's solo show, a light-hearted look at the Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade, part of SF Fringe Fest. Fri. & Sat., call for times. \$8. Shelton Theatre, 533 Sutter. 673-3847.

### The Melting Pot

New paintings by Kico Govantes, thru 10/11. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

### Painted Tales

Works from artist Richard Taylor's sixty years of painting. Reception tonight, 5pm. Thru 12/31. Veterans Bldg., 4th fl., 401 Van Ness. 554-6080.

### The Vampers

Eastenders Repertory Company presents Dean Backus' play, part of SF Fringe Fest. Fri. & Sat., call for times. \$8. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

### Viscous Expectations

Color photographs and duratrans by Cara Judea Alhadeff, reception tonight, 5pm. Thru 12/31. 3rd fl., Veteran's Bldg., 401 Van Ness. 681-2624.

## Sat

### Dellums Portrait

Unveiling of portrait of Congressman Ron Dellums before its display in DC. 5pm. Galleria Scola, 3646 Grand, Oakland. (510) 451-3523.

### Fiesta de Independencia

Latino dance club, guest Mike Ruiz, star of Latin Boys Go to Hell. \$10. 10pm. 174 King. 665-6715.

### Flesh and Blood

Karen Paull's play: manic-depressive woman searches for her daughter; part of SF Fringe Fest. Last perf. tonight at 7:30pm. \$8. Exit Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

### India:

"A Celebration!" 5 exhibitions in honor of 50th yr. of Indian independence. Thru 9/28. \$7. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

### Lavender Seniors

Of the East Bay, gays & lesbians over 55, holds potluck. Noon. San Leandro Comm. Church, 1395 Bancroft, San Leandro. (510) 247-2406.

### Masters of Light:

"Dutch Painters from Utrecht in the Golden Age" 17th-century art exhibit. Thru 11/30. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park. 863-3330.

### The Norma

### Desmond Stratagem

M. Black's one-act satire stars Michael Guillén as Mr. Ribera: part legal secretary, part monster. SF Fringe Fest, last perf. today at noon. \$8. Exit Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

### Orchid Clearance Sale

OrchidMania's annual sale of over 5,000 plants, benefits AIDS groups. Sat. & Sun., 10am-5pm. MLK, Jr. Civic Center Park, Berkeley. 267-4814.

### RadSex?

Leatherplay? Poly-vanilla? Discussion of Senior Unlimited Nudes. 2pm. Clothing-optional part of Baker Beach.

### Ralph Nader Is Missing

Charlie Varon's play, extended thru 9/28. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm. \$17-22. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

### Route 80:

"Cars, Cows and Caffeine," Erin-Kate Whitcomb's multi-character emotional road trip.



Kenn Sprekel and Tommy Paris do that beach-cuddle thing in *Crimes Against Nature* at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. See Thursday.

Michael L. Guillén performs *The Norma Desmond Stratagem*, part of the SF Fringe Festival, at Exit Stage Left. See Saturday.

Wed.-Sun. thru 10/11, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$12-22. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

### Runway 1997

Miss GAPA and Gay Asian Pacific Man Pageant. \$18-28. 7pm. Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason. 863-5798.

### Tom Ammiano

Speaking at spaghetti dinner fundraiser for Alexander Hamilton Post of the American Legion. \$15. 7pm. Rm. 207, Veterans Bldg., 401

Van Ness. 824-3907.

### Virgin Queen Contest

Klubstitute: The Next Generation presents 3rd annual contest for first-time drag queens, benefits CHAMP. \$5-20. 8pm. Trocadero, 520 4th St. 331-1500 ext. DIET.

### What Makes It Queer?

High Risk Group performs *Birds Turned to Stone*. \$7-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Ctr., 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

## Sun

### Beer Bust

Men of All Colors Together's beer/soda bust. \$6. 4-8pm. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 675-0201.

### Bible, Lesbians & Gays

How Bible passages that purport to condemn homosexuality are misinterpreted, free. 9:30am. Bethany United Methodist Church, Clipper & Sanchez. 647-8393.

### Edmund White

Reads from his new novel, *The Farewell Symphony*, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

### Giraffe Party

20th anniversary of video lounge. Buffet at 3pm. Giraffe, 1131 Polk. 474-1702.

### Lesbian & Gay Parenting Group

Parents and wannabe-parents meet, children welcome. 11am. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

### Louise Brooks

"Portraits and Memorabilia" of 1920s actress on display, thru 9/28. What's For Dessert, 1497 Church. 695-9477.

### PFLAG

Support group, 2pm; therapist Paul Gibson speaks, 3pm, free. St. Francis, 152 Church. 921-8850.

### Robb Williams

Cabaret singer accompanied by Tom Shaw on piano. 7pm. Harvey's, Castro & 18th St.

### Sacred Geometry

Julie Caffey's performance: a ritual junkie's journey for meaning, part of SF Fringe Fest. Last perf. tonight at



7:30pm. \$8. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. (510) 864-7370.

### Two Bachelors in Castro

Original play by local playwright Richard Fazi Falzone, part of SF Fringe Fest. Last perf. today at noon. \$8. Shelton Theatre, 533 Sutter. 673-3847.

### Vintage Car Show

Freewheeler Car Club's 14th Annual Benefit Car Show, benefits Proj. Open Hand & GLBT Comm. Ctr. \$6. 11am-4pm. Collingwood Park, Collingwood & 19th St.

## Mon 15

### Condition

Series of landscape photography by Aaron Caplan, thru Sept. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

### Gay Comedy Open Mic

Up-and-coming comic talent, performers sign up by phone. MC Marilyn Pittman. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Michael Johnstone

Color photography & mixed media on display, thru Sept. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St.

### Raised by Wolves:

"Photographs and Documents of Runaways by Jim Goldberg" exhibit, thru 9/21. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

### Rebecca Bollinger

Art exhibition, with Lowell Darling, thru 10/11. Gallery 16, 1616 16th St. 626-7495.

### Shiro Kuramata

Exhibition of works by Japanese designer, thru 12/12. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

## Tues 16

### Financial District Side Show

Liz White, Bill Bernat & Bridget Schwartz in comic sketches on office life. Tues. at 8pm thru Sept. \$6-10. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

### Free Food & Frontal Nudity

New musical comedy: Jed Feuer, Boyd Graham portray full cast of characters. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$22-35. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-TIXS.

### From Negative to Positive

Solo show of artwork by Daniel Woods, thru 9/30. Flower Therapy, 3180 17th St.

### My Cathedral

Site-specific installation by L.A. artist Alex Donis, thru 9/27. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

### Particular Voices:

"Portraits of Gay and Lesbian Writers," photographs by Robert Giard. Reception tonight, 6pm; thru 10/26. Skylight Gallery, Main Library, Civic Center. 557-4595.

### Sculpture Walk

More than 40 life-size sculptures by California artists installed on the Esplanade, thru 9/18. Yerba Buena Gardens, Mission betw. 3rd & 4th Sts. 543-0656.

### Whores and Other Feminists

Editor Jill Nagle and contributors read from new anthology, free. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia.



1996 Virgin Queen Putanesca Jones gives away her crown at the Virgin Queen Contest, at the Trocadero. See Saturday.

## Wed 17

### About Face

25 artists explore the human face, incl. Robert Arneson, Rebecca Bollinger, Imogen Cunningham, more. Thru 11/24. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery. 983-4000.

### American Songbook

Stephen Pelton Dance Theater presents world premiere. Wed.-Sun. thru 9/21 at 8pm. \$12.50-18.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

### David Tuller

Reads from *Cracks in the Iron Closet*, meetings with lesbians and gays in Russia, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

### Don't Make It Necessary...

"For Us To Force You," new paintings by Timothy B. Buckwalter, thru 9/27. Braunstein/Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter. 392-5532.

### Drop Dead Gorgeous

Gay comic Steve Moore's one-man show. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru 9/21. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Electricity...

"Is Your Friend," exhibition of electromechanical tinkering and kinetic sculpture curated by Michael Brown, thru 9/27. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

### Great Moments...

"At the Opera House," exhibit of highlights in history of War Mem'l Opera House, thru 9/7, free. SF Perf. Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

### HEAL Mtg.

Screening of video documentary *AIDS: A Second Opinion*, followed by discussion, free. 7pm. 1833 Page. 441-0685.

### High Society

ACT's production of Arthur Kopit's adaptation of Cole Porter musical. Tues.-Sun. thru 10/5, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$14-51. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

### Mexican Photography

Exhibition: five decades of works by Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Antonio Reynoso, and more. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/8. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0445.

### Revenger Rat

SF Mime Troupe's answer to Joe Camel, free. Noon & 5pm. Union Square, Powell & Geary. 185-1717.

### SF Games

Weekly board and card game group, free. 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffeehouse, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

### Small Prey

SNL alum Nora Dunn in multi-character show, part of Solo Mio fest. Wed. & Thurs. at 8pm. \$16.50. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

## Thur 18

### Cake and Lips

Ray McCrory Jr.'s play about sex, drugs, and drag queen denial. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm thru 9/28. \$15. Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

### Crimes Against Nature

Revival of 1977 play: stories of gay survival. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 10/25; call for Sun. matinees. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

### Erodiscism

Gay artist Adam Borovkoff's photographs exploring erosion, with paintings & drawings, thru Nov. Hotel Diva, 440 Geary. (510) 937-8011.

### Fanny

42nd Street Moon presents concert version of 1954 musical. Thurs.-Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 9/21. \$18.50. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

### Freak Show

Freakin' sideshow dance party. \$7-12. 10pm-3am, shuttle service from Harvey's, 18th & Castro. Club 181, 181 Eddy. 565-0925.

### Shear Madness

Whodunit set in unisex hair-styling salon. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$28-32. Mason Street Theatre, 430 Mason. 982-5463.

### These Are My Sisters

Martha Boesing's celebration of 70s feminism opens A Traveling Jewish Theatre's season. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 9/28. \$18. 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

### Transgendered Portrait

Deborah Hammond's series: portraits of drag kings, drag queens, and transsexuals; with Todd Hido's House Hunting, thru 10/4. SF Camera-work, 115 Natoma. 764-1001.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

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## Drummer judges named

by Mister Marcus

Seven prominent members of the worldwide leather community were named as judges last week for the 19th International Mr. Drummer event. The competition takes place at Club Townsend on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 27. The choices were announced by Robert Davolt, operations manager at Desmodus Inc., publisher of *Drummer* magazine.

For the first time ever, a "boy" was named to the panel, Max Steiner of Baltimore, a woman who won the American Leatherboy title at the American Brotherhood weekend in Washington, D.C., last April. Max will join IM Drummer Kyle Brandon and Sky Renfrow, one of the original founders of IMsL and co-owner of Gauntlet Inc.

The rest of the panel consists of American Leatherman Jim Raymond; Seattle Cuff Bar co-owner Scott Rodriguez; former *Drummer* editor Marcus Jay Wonacott; and George Cameron, founder of VASM Vancouver, B.C., and current board member of the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago.

As of my deadline, 11 regional winners have emerged to compete for the title next month, and this past Saturday, Sept. 6, the final regional contest, Mr. Great Plains Drummer, sponsored by the Gateway Motorcycle Club, was held in St. Louis. At my deadline, the name of the winner had not yet been received.

You can meet all the contestants for the first time on Wednesday, Sept. 24, at the SF-Eagle when

the Golden Gate Guards MC hosts the Drummer Kickoff meet and greet beer bust, beginning at 2000. If you miss that one, they'll be at the Powerhouse the next night for the Mr. Drummer travel fund basket auction at 2000.

Tickets for the Drummer contest are going fast. You can charge the \$25 general admission or \$65 VIP seating (& other goodies) to your Visa, MC or AmEx cards by calling locally 415/974-6020 (push prompt no. 2). Out-of-towners can call toll-free (888) 849-6659. Don't wait!



**Bazaar**

There are literally hundreds of pre- and post-Leather Pride Week events scheduled. The official kickoff event is on Sunday, Sept. 21, at 1300 when the annual Leather Pride Walk leaves Daddy's on Castro for the SF-Eagle (two miles) with a pit stop at the Powerhouse, which has

underwritten the cost of the commemorative pin you receive for making the walk. I hope you're gathering up pledges for the event.

Besides all the beer busts, art shows/auctions, dances and "play" parties, one of the biggest extravaganzas is the Fetish & Fantasy party at Club Townsend on Friday, Sept. 26. It'll be a continuous three-ring circus with all sorts of fetish and fantasy-oriented activities and several surprises. The \$12/advance, \$15/door tickets are chargeable to your plastic by calling the same local number mentioned above.

Of course, the climax of SF Leather Pride Week is the 14th annual Folsom Street Fair. Needless to say, there will be a lot of first-timers again this year, including Matt Miller, co-owner of the Dallas Eagle. It is suggested that any-



American Leatherboy Max Steiner of Baltimore is the first female/boy to ever judge a Mr. Drummer finals contest.

one with a boy keep him tied up at home; Matt is notorious throughout the great Southwest for his penchant for "younger men."

Board members and volunteers for SMMILE have been hard at work for months to ensure a quality leather event. And speaking of volunteers, AEF board member Keith Truitt issued a call for about 40 bodies to help. The AEF is one of this year's beneficiaries, so your aid is sorely needed. Call Keith at 931-2858 or Clark Sealy at 558-6985. Do it today!

The Northern California Drummer Boy competition was held on Saturday night, Sept. 6, at Greg's Ballroom in San Jose, and according to co-sponsor Graylin Thornton, the boys showed a lot of class and preparation in their interviews and speeches. As it turned out, Dan Hughes of San Jose took the title, and with his Drummer man, John Brown, they should make a formidable presence in the finals.

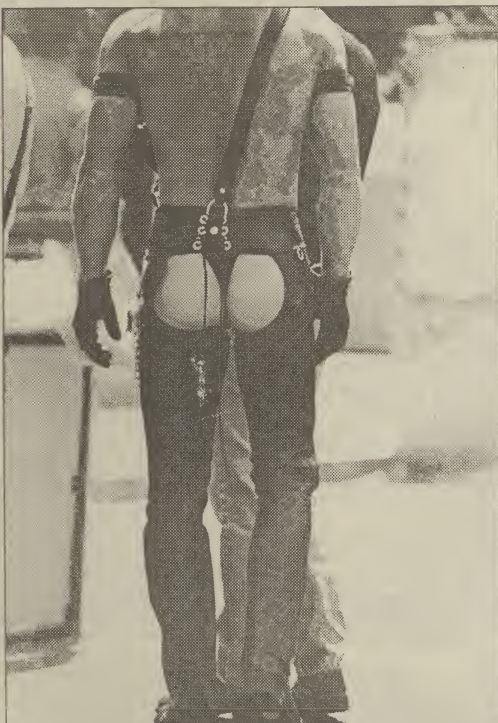
### The Dishcovery Channel

Folks who frequent "play spaces" were upset to learn last week that the Castlebar venue has been sold and the fun/games at that location are over! Anyone with space for rent should let the Leathernecks know!

Last weekend was the second session of Hellfire's S/M weekend "Inferno" in the wilds of Michigan, and if there was ever a "virgin/novice" attending, it was our own super jock Andy Anderson! All this and softball, too?

The vicious rumor mill never stops! Last week, word was out that Tony Amato had committed suicide! Two days later, the scuttlebutt was that IML '88 "Iron" Mike Pereyra had been pushed off a balcony and suffered a broken neck! Both untrue! These vicious rumors spark pain and anxiety for friends and relatives. Get a life!

E-mail squibs: From Fuokoko, Japan, former IML Henri Ten-Have flashes that he'll be working there for a year! But before he left Amsterdam, he created this hilarious calendar showing himself in many different "modes." It's wild. If you're interested, e-mail me at Hatchetq@aol.com. I hear Amy Marie Meek just hates my e-mail address! I see! ▼



Multiply this man by several thousand and you get an inkling of what the scenery will be like at the 14th annual Folsom Street Fair on Sunday, Sept. 28.



## PHOTOGRAPHY

## Witkin

page 38

pry and mainstream taste consistently result in photographs of extraordinary imagination and visceral impact. To say that Witkin values difference is an understatement; his images celebrate the very existence of outsiders and of behavior normally and narrowly defined as deviant. Beyond this, his photos purposefully reference classic works from the art-historical canon as a means to both honor and usurp Old Master aesthetics. Decidedly controversial, Witkin's work tends to polarize viewers who either respond positively to its subversive imagery or flat-out reject it on the grounds that it is queasy-making or exploitative (Witkin was once branded a Satanist by *The 700 Club*, a charge he laughingly dismisses).

Witkin's most recent body of work is currently on view at Fraenkel Gallery. If you're not previously familiar with the artist's thematic concerns and stylistic practice, these nine photographs and two accompanying drawings provide an ideal introduction to his singular oeuvre. Having spent years roaming through morgues, hospitals, back alleys, and sex clubs in search of fitting subjects for his elaborate portraits, Witkin here continues his unflinching exploration of taboo truths and fractured fairy-tale fantasies. Christ figures, decapitated heads, hybridized fauna, fetching hermaphrodites, and tor-

tured royalty figure prominently in Witkin's highly theatrical tableaux. Each one is so sumptuous, so filled with outlandish detail, that later, thinking back on what you've seen, you may doubt your own memory.

Despite their customary excesses, these new works are relatively restrained; Witkin tempers the surreal, almost medieval horror of his images with tenderness, however cloaked, and with occasional sly humor. In *The Shepherd's Sunday, Rome*, a naked shepherd tends to his horse while a Christ figure, replete with crucifix and stigmata, is attended to by three men in masks and robes. Around them flock dozens of sheep, only one of which is black. Jesus appears again as a deformed fetus on a cross in *History of the (White) World: Venus Preferred to Christ, Paris*, in which Venus appears as a nude woman shorn of pubic hair, balancing on a metal rod and ignoring the pleas of the apostle illustrated on the backdrop behind her. Layers of religious allegory and art-historical imagery are present in these works, yet as much as Witkin might cobble together archetypal myths he rarely stoops to mere pastiche.

Adding to the complexity of Witkin's images is his careful manipulation of their negatives, which he scratches, tones, and distresses as part of the printing process. As a result, the photographs look antiquated, their surface patina suggestive of Biblical times. Witkin also curves or angles his prints and mats so that

their formal presentation resembles those of Old Master paintings. His delicate handling of these printing and presentation techniques has earned praise from fellow photographers even when they object to his subject matter.

No doubt some viewers will continue to object to Witkin's work, yet I'm certain this show is not to be missed by anyone interested in contemporary photography or in learning to transcend fears of the unknown. In his 1976 Masters thesis, Witkin explains that the childhood trauma of witnessing a car accident triggered his obsession with pain and death: "It happened on a Sunday, when my mother was escorting my twin brother and myself down the steps of the tenement where we lived. We were going to church... we heard an incredible crash mixed with screaming and cries for help. At the place where I stood at the curb, I could see something rolling from one of the overturned cars. It was the head of a little girl. I bent down to touch the face, to speak to it, but before I could touch it someone carried me away." Witkin has been trying to get back to that head at the curb throughout his 25 years as a photographer; he's possibly halfway there, and already he's reached somewhere strange and sublime. ▼

Photographs by Joel-Peter Witkin are on view through October 11 at Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary Street, San Francisco. Call 415-981-2661.

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

## Thursday, Sept. 11

Lou Duff's basic bondage class, 1830-2200. Call 550-0122 for details.

Free STD checkups at 933 Harrison (upstairs) courtesy of Blow Buddies and City Clinic.

## Saturday, Sept. 13

Leathernecks' monthly party for men over 18, \$12. The soiree includes The Ring's presentation: "Fundamentals of Flogging," beginning at 1830. No late admittance.

## Sunday, Sept. 14

A former SoMa bar owner (Boot Camp) celebrates 20 years at the Giraffe on Polk Street today, with a drawing for a TV/VCR and buffet at 1500. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success!

## Friday, Sept. 19

The Exiles MC's monthly gathering (\$3) at the Women's Building. A timely topic will be discussed. Call 487-5170 for more information.

Free and anonymous HIV testing, 2200-2230, upstairs at 933 Harrison.

Opening reception for Mark I. Chester's "Sexart 5" group exhibition featuring six SF and NY photographers, 1900-2300, \$5, at 1229 Folsom. Also

open all day of Folsom Street Fair (Sept. 28). Call 292-3223 for more information.

The fabulous Bearatones kick off Castro Cabaret at MCC (150 Eureka Street) at 2000 with a sliding scale of \$5-\$10. This group is getting rave reviews, and it's well-deserved 'cuz they are talented! Call 552-6031 for reservations!

## Saturday, Sept. 20

Bears of SF beer bust at that hirsute hangout, the Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900, \$6. Benefits SM-MILE. Last hot dog day until May 1998!

International Mr./Ms. Cheeks & Chaps contest, 2100, at the SF-Eagle by the Alameda County Leather Corps. Call (510) 889-7664. Bare those buns and win a title!

## Sunday, Sept. 21

Kick off Leather Pride Week and join the Leather Pride Walk from Daddy's to the SF-Eagle and a pit stop at the Powerhouse. Register at 1300; start walking at 1400. Get your pledges going now!

Immediately following the walk at 1500 at the SF-Eagle, six of the dozen 1998 SoMa Calendar guys will be auctioned off for dinner dates at some of SF's finest restaurants by Lenny Broberg. It's an \$8 beer bust, food, laughs and a fundraiser for the AEF. Don't miss this one!

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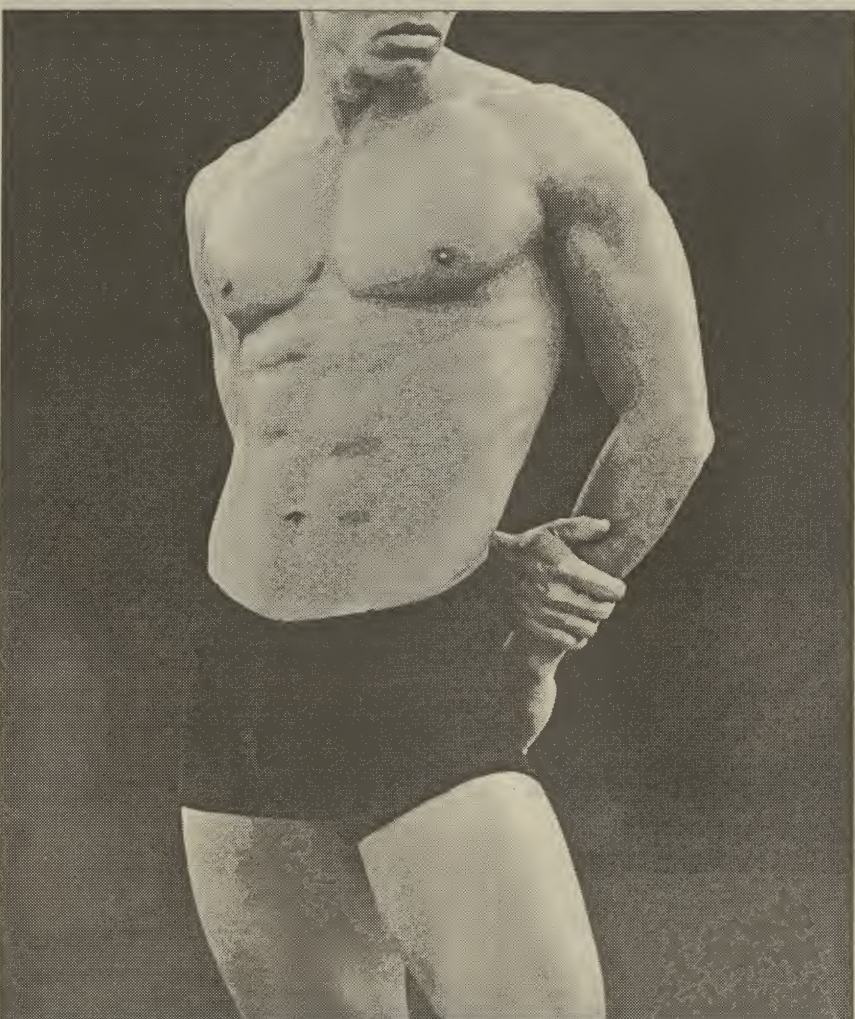
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### PARTING GLANCES

**Walgreens, Thurs., 8/14**  
Morning, you bought cigs in green box, had brown back pack, great smile and butt. Me: green sweat shirt & goatee, you looked back. Call please. ☎ 7701.

**Wed. Aug. 13 The Edge**  
You: cute blonde bartender. Me: cute, young blonde bartender. Let's meet on Thurs. I'll be wearing just a smile. How about you. ☎ 7702.

**Steven @ Steamworks 8/8**  
Can't seem to forget the way you smelled, the way you touched me: you: short hair, sun tattoo on left shoulder blade, white tank top, blue shirt. Me: Randy, Asian, glasses. Please call. ☎ 7703.

**Waterboys Party Aug. 15th**  
Me: the doorman, salt & pepper balding, blue eyes. You: lean, firm, hairy chest, salt & pepper crew cut. We laughed about the guy who felt that 35 was old. Please call. ☎ 7704.

**Joshua at The Eagle**  
We talked and talked and took off our shirts. Please call and let's have dinner. Frits. ☎ 7706.

**Kevin from Steamworks Fri. 8/15**  
We had a great time. Would you like to get together again? Call Walter and Patrick from the South Bay. ☎ 7707.

**Blk Haired & Bearded Jogger**  
Sunday morning August 17, you were jogging on upper Market. Me: tall, salt/pepper beard near small blue car. I waved and honked as I drove by. Let's connect. ☎ 7708.

**Baker Beach Fri. Aug. 22**  
We spoke at the south end of beach as you were leaving. You're from Noe Valley, I'm from Berkeley. Let's talk some more. ☎ 7801.

**Original Joe's Sun. 8/17 8:30 PM**  
You: tall, handsome with mustache with man and woman. me: tall with woman, wearing yellow shirt. Our eyes met a few times. I wanted to say "hello," please call. ☎ 7802.

**Hispanic Man At Bus Stop 8/19**  
About 5PM, 18th & Castro. You're shy, with mustache and turquoise shirt. I was across street drinking coffee. We waved good-bye as you left. Let's meet! ☎ 7803.

**Johnny in Wheelchair from NY.**  
Met at "Hole in the Wall." You said staying with brother. We went to Oakland. Would've taken you out for you 27th birthday but haven't found you since. Whaddaya say? ☎ 7705.

**RRR Guerneville**  
Saw you around pool to talk to shy. Your name is Joe, from SF, Italian, reddish hair, grn eyes, great beard. Very hot & incredibly built, wolf Daddy! My mouth & butt are yours! Dan. ☎ 7804.

**24 Hour Fitness 2nd/Folsom**  
8/20 you worked out with cap during the first half of your workout. I was orange tank top. Walked with you on 2nd St., but too shy to talk. ☎ 7805.

**Mr. S. Leather, Sat AM, 8/23**  
You: GAM/GWM couple. GAM very buff, jeans, no shirt. GWM tall. Both totally hot. I told GWM I like your friend. Let me serve both of you! ☎ 7806.

**Club Asia 8/22 Upper Platform**  
You're the handsome WM with goatee who came over and asked the time. My Times Indigo indicated 1:30. I should have said it's about time we met. Well how about now? ☎ 7807.

**Wirtz Gallery Sat 3PM 8/23**  
You: cute, bl/bl, young, budding artist. me: interested in the photos—and you! Loved talking with you, but I failed to see what else could "develop." Coffee? Drinks? Pls. call! ☎ 7811.

**Sat 8/23 B Buddies GBM 4 GWM**  
You: white dominant top, initial D, about 5'9". Me: blk bottom guy, 6 ft. Had to leave 84 I got your number. Love to take it again. ☎ 7808.

**Watergarden Thursday Aug. 14**  
Room 14, handsome Japanese prince stroked WM, shy exec-type with gray suit who wants more: please call so I can do more for you. ☎ 7809.

**David D. 8/23 6-10 AM Berkeley**  
You sat w/blk friend across from us: you: blue eyes, brown, blue pants, me: blond/blue, mustache, levi jacket. We connected as you left at 24th. Use instincts, call. ☎ 7805.

**24 Div Bus Aug. 13 Wed 10:30PM**  
You sat w/blk friend across from us: you: blue eyes, brown, blue pants, me: blond/blue, mustache, levi jacket. We connected as you left at 24th. Use instincts, call. ☎ 7805.

**8/28 MB450 Conv. Mkt/Franklin**  
We said hello from cars at Market and Duboce and followed each other onto Franklin at about 8:15 PM. Sorry I was in hurry. Let's connect. ☎ 7901.

**Matt-Towns End Restaurant 9/1**  
"You're beautiful," is what I said to you. And I meant it! You teased me with your smile. I sent you a mimosa. We chatted briefly before you drove away. Drive back into my life—we can smile together! Andre. ☎ 7904.

**Korean Boy-Muscle System 8/30**  
I'm the buff GWM you met, you said I had an unusual accent. You gave me some workout tips. We flirted. I'm interested. Why not call and open the door? ☎ 7907.

**12/28/96 Universe was Closing**  
Greg, your words kept spinning through my mind keeping me on some whimsical high. This is the guy in the white truck. Still looking for you but to no avail. ☎ 7905.

**Joseph at the Cinch Bar**  
You: pool player, tall, brown hair, blue eyes and very sexy. We fooled around in bathroom at the Cinch, on 8/30. Me: cute Asian, short and nice. Call me Joe. ☎ 7906.

**John at Video Shop on Geary**  
A few months ago we met in a video booth. You: 31yr old. I gave you my phone #. I'm Ray, 27. Would like to see you regularly the way you want. ☎ 7903.

**Bell Market Noe Valley 8/28**  
Early evening, you with friend in white car, me in white Jeep. We smiled and cruised each other in the store. Please call me. ☎ 7902.

### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Tennis Anyone? Asians To Date**  
32yo GWM, 5'7", trim 138#, clean cut, all-American ISO tennis partners—any race or age: Asian under 38yo, under 5'10", smooth & slender, we can talk about more. ☎ 7709.

**Buffed GBM 4 GWM Hunk**  
Muscular, masculine, attractive and intelligent, professional, intensely spirited GB "MAN" seeks sexy, high-quality, mainstream, socially confident, mature, witty, muscular GW "MAN" for fun, laughs, friendship...maybe more! ☎ 7710

**Attractive Latin 26**  
I'm 5'7", 170, muscular, stocky build. I like movies, traveling, and dining, but not into bar scene. Prefer to meet Latinos or whites under 35. N/S. ☎ 7711.

**Seeking Mature Asian Man**  
Husky GWM, 46, 6'3", 230#, bl/bl, hairy, looking for 35-50 yr old Asian who enjoys quiet times at home, movies, dinner, pets & possible relationship. Please be solid to stocky build. ☎ 7713.

**Dominant Italian**  
In-shape, 52, 5'8", 145#, long-time bodybuilder but don't acquire bulk. ISO very muscular or naturally well-built younger M to control, spank, massage, bind and bond with. ☎ 7714.

**Submissive Bottom Boy Wanted**  
Hot aggressive man: 58, 5'8", 135 lbs, good build wants you for intimate pleasure. If you're in good shape & need a man standing over you, then call. ☎ 7715.

**Hot Property Available**  
GWM, 6', 170#, 40 yo, prof. adventurous & a nice guy in E.B. wide variety of interests incl. outdoors, travel, music, & more. ISO intelligent, humorous, in-shape, complementary guy for more than sex. ☎ 7716.

**Hot Submissive Btm 4 LTR Wntd**  
GWM, 42, br/br, must, handsome, well built, great life, exec. career, seeks-28-40 yo, slim, in shape, in touch with emotions and intellect; I am a great catch you be also. Sexy + + + +. ☎ 7717.

**Take a Chance on Me?**  
GAM, 28, 5'7", 145 lbs, attractive, honest, sincere, likable, easy going, likes movies, dancing, outdoors. Looking for 25-34 yo man with similar qualities for friendship/poss. relationship. ☎ 7718.

**Tall Attractive Leather Bottom**  
Strong work ethic, healthy, nurturing, family oriented, craftsman, seeks guidance and life with tall, strong, stable, passionate leatherman. Want to contribute, grow, comfort, respect, love, trust. Will be at Folsom. ☎ 7719.

**Good-looking Black Ex-Marine**  
Healthy, cuddly, affectionate & physically sensual. Seeks mature man 60+. Your race & size is secondary. ☎ 7720.

**Seeking Loving LTR 35+**  
Attractive GWM, 59, with good heart seeks loving LTR with slim, small body, GM 35+ who likes to cook. I enjoy hugging, kissing, cuddling, and JO. ☎ 7721.

**Seeking Healthy HIV+ Guy!**  
You: 35 or so, thin to lean build, outgoing and active. Me: blk, 5'10", 165#, lean build, in to 1 on 1 interaction. ☎ 7722.

**Like Uncut?**  
Good-looking straight type, GWM 50, 5'10", 190#, not into gay scene. Seeks similar, good-looking, masculine, honest man. Great times are ahead. ☎ 7766.

**Motor Officer**  
New to gay scene. Has lots to learn about the gay scene. HIV-. Me: GL, tall boots a+. You: masculine, must be discreet. Into men not boys. Looking for a good time out on the town. Love to have fun with the right man who can get past the cop. I know that you are out there. ☎ 7812.

**Cute Boy Toy Wanted**  
I've been celibate for 25 yrs but need a young man in my life now. Small frame with good mouth & hung for weekend play. Let's get it on! ☎ 7813.

**Gentleman To Gentleman**  
Senior conservative respectable male is receptive to a younger married straight man. Prefer affluent, cultured man. ☎ 7814.

**Biohazard Widower**  
Re beginning life after a health event. 6'2", 220, blonde, buzz-cut, big "stach, 37yo mid-west farm boy. "Retired" 5 yrs. Seeking POZ, confident, slightly jaded, over 30 types with a passion in their life. ☎ 7815.

**Handsome Hunky Loving Date**  
Quality GWM looking for passionate relationship, possible LTR. 6'2", 190#, 40s, 45c, 15A, very muscled Italian, grounded, HIV+, non-progressor, successful, sexually charged. Looking for comparable GWM, 30-40. Serious only. ☎ 7816.

**GBM Looking For New Love**  
GBM, 40s, 5'11", 190#, Oakland. Enjoy reading, theater, dining, movies and cdding. Positive in good health. ISO GWM, 35-45 yrs. Be honest, have integrity and professional. Friendship/LTR. ☎ 7817.

**Revered Society**  
American man desires a man of power and substance. His cultural intellect and intimate nature are insurmountable qualities. Seeking a person who has a tremendous vision of his capabilities. ☎ 7818.

**Mature Black Men**  
45, loves black men between 40-60 yrs. old. I can service you a long time with deep throat and bottom. Submissive guy awaits your desires. ☎ 7819.

**Discreet Service Front & Rear**  
Husky GWM, 52, ISO AM or HM in shape, E. Bay under 35, no recip. nec. married OK, uncut OK. You know you need it. ☎ 7820.

**Gay Sports Fans?**  
GWM, 40's, 5'8", 175, new to area but lifelong Giants and Niners fans seeks friendship with similar sports fans. 35-50. ☎ 7821.

**Asian Muscles Wanted**  
Englishman in Lake Tahoe WLM, beautiful Asian, 25-35, pref Japanese, Eurasian. For city visits Tahoe stays. I'm 6'3", 175, athletic, brn/brn, you: tall, good shape, muscles, a plus. Personality. ☎ 7822.

**Where Are You?**  
Very cute Latino, 30, 5'11", 175, good sense of humor, athletic, seeking WM, 30-45, no smoking, HIV-, for LTR. ☎ 7712.

**GAM ISO GWM Soulmate**  
New to town, seeking WM for date, friend, and lover/btm 27-40. Come and open my lonely soul. ☎ 7823.

**Sizzle an Tenderess**  
GWM wants bl/GWM lover. I'm 6', husky, frisky, witty, generous, you're romantic, responsible, thin, HIV-, NS. ☎ 7834.

**GWM, 28, 5'10", 160**  
Healthy HIV+, Italian/German, seeks same: your masculine pal like myself, under 35. As terrific as I am, next to you I'd be even better. ☎ 7911.

**Love and Beloved In Fall**  
Are you enchanted with autumn? Feel sentimental, lonely, desire for warmth/love? Let's be together, have coffee, apple desserts, walk into Fall. Me: GAM, 30, elegant, attractive, ISO GWM, 25-45, well-educated. ☎ 7824.

**Sex, Commitment, LTR**  
East Bay, HIV+, 37, GHM, 5'5", 155, Spiritual sex pig, romantic, bearded/You GWM, ISO sex, commitment, LTR. Mutual FF, WS, toys and cuddling too. ☎ 7825.

**Looking For A Special Person**  
GWM, 45, 5'10", 170#, blk hr/hazel eyes, attractive, friendly, romantic in search of white or Latin male (34-44 yrs old) HIV-, masculine, intelligent, sense of humor, tall (5'10" to 6'1") E. Bay, facial hair a plus. ☎ 7826.

**Accountant By Day Love Slave**  
This ad appeared before. Those who responded were boys not men. I seek someone masculine and who can satisfy my needs. Me: HIV-. You like good food. ☎ 7827.

**CHP Motor Officer**  
This ad appeared before. Those who responded were boys not men. I seek someone masculine and who can satisfy my needs. Me: HIV-. You like good food. ☎ 7828.

**Looking for a Friend**  
GBM, 36, seeks GM, 30-36, for friendship or relationship. Must have his act together, NS/ND. I'm not just looking for sex. ☎ 7829.

**GWM Bear-Type Nudist in SF Sks**  
Other GW/LH/I M nudist. I'm 38yo, 6'3", 220, husky, mod hairy, drk hair, bl eyes. Love movies, games, music, cuddle/touch/skiss, play, talk, coffee in bed Sunday mornings. You: 30-45, ht/wt prop. relaxed fun. Rdhds/UC/slim A+. ☎ 7830.

**Private Humiliation**  
Demanding male, 43, seeks clean-cut "son" to publicly praise when well behaved and privately humiliate (in various ways) when disobedient. Military, Irish, or Catholic background preferred. ☎ 7831.

**Black Man 41, HIV-, 6'1", 170#**  
Beard, short dreads sks friends. I'm a music teacher, musician, masseur and gardener. I'm vegetarian into simple living & spiritual practices. I live in the foothills of Mendocino county. I visit the Bay area occasionally. Not looking for sex buddy. ND/NS/NA. ☎ 7832.

**Seeking Tall Husky Men**  
Age unimportant. Prefer white or Latino. Big feet a plus. Me: GAM, 23, 5'7", 155#, attractive and work-out. Will answer all replies. ☎ 7833.

**Celebrate the Body Erotic**  
Mod hairy, bearded, long haired Body Electric grad, 42, 5'10", 170#, seeks loving community of Bay Area ecstasies, healers, intimates, teachers, sacred brothers & other kindred spirits for ongoing massage exchange. ☎ 7835.

**Young GWM for Built GBM/GLM**  
I'm 24, 5'11", 155, gd/pr, prof wedge, bl/bl. You: 25-39, hung, muscular, versatile, no STD, upbeat, sweet talker w/style, devotion, good life. Possible LTR. ☎ 7908.

**HIV+ Valley Boy Wants City Man**  
Attractive, healthy, GWM mid 30's, blonde, blue, goatee, bottom seeks LTR with masculine top man. Live in Sacramento. ☎ 7909.

**Would You Mine If I'm Asian**  
Hawaiian Filipino, 30's, 5'5", 138, HIV+ bottom skin a mass, top-man, in shape, or stocky built, 4 romance to nasty times, friendship, poss relationship w/warred interests. Any race, 25-50. A+ Puerto, Mid Eastern, Latinos & Irish, uncut. ☎ 7910.

**Winning Top Sks LTR Bottom**  
GWM, 42 yo, br/br, mustache, hndsm, well built, 5'9", 170. Sks active bottom for lover, you be lean or in shape, authentic, fun, 25-40, looking for marriage and real love. ☎ 7912.

**Man-Boy Seeks Daddy LTR**  
GWM, 6', 175, submissive, well built, hairy, buzzed, beard, healthy HIV+. Boy likes anal pleasure wants to explore 80, FF, various scenes. Big, hairy, hung, all +s. Call me sir. ☎ 7913.

**Go with the Flow "Energy"**  
6', 160#, ice blue eyes, seeking an ethnic, black or the rare Caucasian who understands energy interchange between men. Intelligent, compassionate, adventurous, witty, caring, sensitive, honest, real, handsome, inquisitive. ☎ 7914.

**Boy Wants to Grow Nice Abs**  
And get lean & trim on your program, sir. Set goals, supervise workouts. Let me lick your nuts & ass if deserved. Spank my bare ass hard when needed. Boy is 46, 5'9", 155, glasses, shaved, in-shape (hiking/yoga), nice natural body. ☎ 7915.

**Smoldering Lust**  
Hunkome, passionate, 35, 6'2", 180, stache/tee, HIV-, seeks reg sex buddy. You? guy next door, while, small waist, inexperienced but bottom curious. Discover the ecstasy. ☎ 7916.

**Expert Cockucker**  
Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship mass, verbal topman, over 40, wgt proportion. Caut or Asian. ☎ 7917.

**Nordic Educated Cultured PGWM**  
Gentleman farmer, semi-retired, solar scientist, environmentalist, naturalist, seeks companion to share the lively arts, world travel, conversation and possibly life on a beautiful farm. ☎ 7918.



**HIV+ Friend/Companion Wanted**  
Blond, slender, 6'1", 185#, clean cut, uncult, GWM, 34, seeking GWM, HIV+, cute, weight proportionate guy under 35. ☎ 7919.

#### Athletic Guy

Musculine, professional, witty, Asian, 49, 5'9", 150, physically active and fit, seeks clean-shaven, lean or muscular WM into workouts, hiking, camping, sports, dancing, ethnic food, travel and fun times. ☎ 7960.

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

#### Why I Give You Great Head?

Enlightened self-interest—the better the blow job the bigger your life for me to savor. Big loads beat big dicks! Two mouthfuls maybe? ☎ 7724.

**Big Dick Bottom Boys Turn Me On**  
UB: good looking GWM/GLM, 25-35, w/ hot and ready to spread 'em. Me: good-looking top, GWM, 40, I want to feed you from both ends. Open up and do it! ☎ 7725

#### This Top's for You

Jim, a serious black top, 39, 170 lbs., 6', 97"—Wants a hot, wet & "natural" hole to fuck. You: sexy GWM or Latino. Lean, trim, masc and ready—then let's do it. ☎ 7726.

#### Play with My Great Ass

Then spread my legs and pound your big mammet into my hot hole. Muscular, masculine, mature man seeks hung topmen, 25-40, to fill my hungry butt with love juice. ☎ 7727.

#### Asian Man Wanted

GWM, 34, tall, good-looking, in-shape healthy, seeks healthy Asian top for sex and maybe more. The real thing. ☎ 7728.

**Horny Horny, Hungry, Oral Expert**  
WM 37 sks dominant coach top WM, 35-50 who wants his locker room sex a reality. Nasty talk, porno parting on this cock all night bear. Stir, bi welcome. Discreet head for coach. ☎ 7729.

#### Hot Action

Asshole enter w/rm seat. Me: Hsp, hot, very attr, 40, 5'11", 165#. You: hot, in shape, young to 40, w/puckering hole & lips. ☎ 7730.

#### I Want to Please You

With my hot mouth and tongue. Me: handsome, GWM, 33, 6', 175#, br/bm. You: 20-30, GWM, h/wt prop, avg, good looks, verbally dominant. Thing, really looking a plus. ☎ 7731.

#### GLM Bottom ISO GWM Top

For discreet encounters late afternoon early evenings, my place. Me: HIV+, 30 yo, 6', slim, clean shaven in LTR. You: HIV+, 40-55 yo, into sucking/fucking, facial hair preferred but not necessary. ☎ 7732.

#### Just Shut Up and Ride!

32, WM, 5'10", 200 lb., blond hair, blue eyes, muscle hunk (48" ch, 31" w, 18" arms) wants good-looking man masculine men to pump me full of squirt—anytime. ☎ 7733

#### Let's 69 All Night

44yo, GWM pig, small cut cock. Likes to go fast, cum slow—into porno. UB same—good attitude mandatory. ☎ 7734.

**Exciting, Endowed East Bay**  
Black top man, 45, needs a chunky, experienced, masculine mature bottom man over 40 for a fast, hot, intense ride on my joystick. Sincere only. ☎ 7735.

#### Jack Off - Cock Play - Discreet

Pull the pud. Stroke, whack the rod. Call it what you want. Let's do it! Watch each other. Do each other until we shoot! Weekdays. GWM, 40's, HIV-, clean cut, h/wt prop. ☎ 7736

#### Hung Black Muscle Top Wanted

By 35 yo, 5'10", 155, hot, handsome, br/bl, smooth, muscular, tight, well defined swimmer with hard white butt & hot hole. You: big, hard, hung; age, looks unimp. ☎ 7737.

#### Black Men 8 In or More

GWM, 5'8", 145#, goatie, stache, seeks well endowed black men for regular servicing. I get into anything. ☎ 7738.

#### Big Dick Jack Off

Manly 5'10", muscular 180#, meaty 7", beard, bald like gripping boners, kissing extremely masculine, hairy chested guys/big dicks (uncut +). Rugged, affectionate guys, rubbing pees, licking beards, delaying macho loads. ☎ 7739

#### You Want Ass...

That's hot, wet & takes long, deep "natural" fucks. I on 1 or more. Sexy, GWM, lean, trim, masc & ready. You: f/wt prop, masc, serious & ready to fuck now. ☎ 7740.

#### Get Loose and Be Wild

Feel like playing like an animal? Very hairy WM, HIV-49, 5'10", 170#, likes sweaty wrestling, struggle for top, any scene you want. East Bay preferred but all answered. ☎ 7741.

#### Big Btm Boy ISO Domnt Tops

GWM, 41, 5'10", 245#, brown/hazel, goatie, big tits & ass ISO all aggressive men to fill my holes. Use me for your pleasure, sir. Age, race, looks, size unimportant. ☎ 7742.

#### Only Sucking You Off Will Do

Because that's the one way you unload spurt after spurt where it can be savored and swallowed in a climax befitting my world class blow job. Step to the phone? ☎ 7743.

#### Italian Guys!

I'm the guy who knows what the Italian male really wants. ☎ 7744.

#### Chest, Legs, & Skin

Handsome Asian, beautiful chest 7 legs, olive skin, seeks same physical type for mutual pleasure. Hairy legs A+, HIV+ preferred. ☎ 7745.

#### I Own a Vintage 1954 Black

Hot red and I need a new front or rear parking space for it. Both driver (me) and passenger (you) are mature, honest, manly and have staches. Start engines. ☎ 7746.

#### Discreet Action Wanted

By GWM, 39, in a LTR, 170, 5'11", average fitness/size. Goatied, hairy, br/bl into versatile oral/anal pleasures. No bareback sex. Available days/occasional nights. Very passionate. Singles or couples. ☎ 7747.

#### Pump My Ass & Unload

Horny, handsome, hot Italian needs my ass pumped & plunged & fucked often until you unload your balls. ☎ 7748.

#### I Need A Man...

Who is a total bottom, maybe uncult and have a hot hairy ass for pounding. This B 1/2 hot, thick, inches in hard and waiting HIV+ OK. ☎ 7736.

#### Erotic Sensuous BM

Handsome professional BM, 94" uncult, 6', 195#, masculine, squeaky clean, honest, HIV-, seeks similar big beefy athletic build, round bubble butt or well hung, a plus. BL, men of color, race open. ☎ 7837.

#### Hungry GWM Job Wnted Evenings

45, WM, 5'10", 165#, med bld, br/bl, musta, 7x5 1/2 cut cock ringed met w/pro sized balls seeking hungry milker on regular basis. Serious only. ☎ 7838.

#### Wanted: Big Firm Butt

Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big Needs Cau men, well built w/a big hairy butt to eat and fuck. ☎ 7839.

#### Bulging Biceps

Wanted: boys or men, 21-45 yrs old, thin to muscular, with defined biceps, who enjoy flexing, servicing dick, and getting fucked. I'm 6'1", 185#, 37 yrs, muscular, gym toned, top oriented. ☎ 7840.

#### Nipples

Looking for eccentric men who need to be watched while they JO and work their nipples. Let's do it together. Tt addicts only—yeah! ☎ 7841.

#### Pump It!

Good-looking, tall, 30's, bottom seeks hung studs to fill my throat and butt. I want to be pumped, plumped, and plugged with big meat. Couples welcome. EEO/AA. ☎ 7842.

#### Butt Fuck Me and Unload

Husky, horny, handsome, hot Italian pig fuckee looking for stud pig fuckers. 44, 6', 195#, goatie, beefy butt and always greased up. Castro late night sex. ☎ 7843.

#### East Bay Daddy

Seeks submissive boy, 18-35, for randy times and... ☎ 7844.

#### Clean-cut Bottom Wanted

UB, 40's, HIV-, average build, dominant br/bl, smooth, spanking and save playing. Me: 42, 5'10", 158#, cln shn. You: shorter, cln shn, dick+ plus. Fat, fem is not. ☎ 7845.

#### Gym Bottom Into Average Joe?

WM, 40's, HIV-, average build, dominant br/bl, smooth, spanking and save playing. Me: 42, 5'10", 158#, cln shn. You: shorter, cln shn, dick+ plus. Fat, fem is not. ☎ 7845.

#### Seeking Big Dicked JO Buddies

Let's put our big dicks together and jack off, nipple play too. Sexy bicyclist, hairy chest, big fat dick. No drugs or alcohol. ☎ 7847.

#### Oral Muscle Bottom Wanted

Smooth skinned muscle bottom with bubble butt wanted by hot hung HIV-, 6'1", 185#, Blacks, Asians OK. Masculine only. ☎ 7848.

#### GBM+ ISO GWM+ Top

Healthy HIV+ GBM ISO GWM top to service. 185, 6'4, smooth. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 7849.

#### Sunrise Services

Hot bottom seeks hung studs for early morning action. I'm 26, 6'2", 195#, bl/bl, tight hungry bubble butt and bottomless throat. UB: hot, horny, hung and ready for action. ☎ 7850.

#### Chubby-Muscular Seeks Partner

Me: 30, masculine, blonde, blue, 5'10", 225#, HIV+, safe, top or bottom for bondage, humiliation, moderate S/M and fantasy. You: turned-on by a kinky, attractive, heavy guy. ☎ 7851.

#### Weekends & Afternoons

N. Bay cocksucker wants clean cut big cocks to deep throat me. Clean, HIV-, early 50's, hot mouth, plus little tight hairy ass. Available for exploring & fucking. I will be in charge. I'm eager to please!! Age, race, looks, unimportant. ☎ 7852.

#### Very Petite

Seeks tops 7" or better. My interest include sucking, massage and probe my little bottom, pounding my ass. Deep throat your big 8" cock. Having my balls worked hard. I'm GWM, HIV-, 50's, submissive, adventurous. ☎ 7853.

#### The Thicker The Better

Well built, lighter man or color, 8 1/2x6 dick, beard, 34, HIV-, ISO big beefy, hung B+, HIV-, for hot, sweaty JO sessions. Big balls, uncult, smoker a plus. ☎ 7854.

#### Call Me White Boy!

Stocky GWM, 52, ISO GBM in shape, under 35 who likes to be rimmed and fucked in E. Bay. No perfumes, discreet, race talk OK. ☎ 7855.

#### Mature Man Seeks Younger

For on going fun times. Fantasies? Why not! I'm 73, 5'8", 165, you are 18-40, healthy, sexual, and open minded like I am. ☎ 7856.

#### Looking for Classy—Fuck Buddies

I'm a college graduated, black, cut, fun and chic, looking for guys—any color, who are sophisticated and interesting. For platonic or sex. Must be classy. ☎ 7866.

#### A Dick is a Dick is a Dick...

Till it's sucked real good and shot its biggest possible load for the good sucker. For blow job well done. Let me show ya what I mean! ☎ 7920.

#### Hot Cocksucking Agenda

1. Your hard cock. 2. Any size OK. 3. Sucked like no tomorrow. 4. You unload. 5. Clients repeat 7. Discover why. 8. You deserve unloading these bigger loads. ☎ 7921.

#### Hot Sexy Erotic Boy

Very cute, very smooth boy, young, experienced, 21yo, blond, clean, safe, gay sex wanted from young guy couples. Jocks a plus. N/S/O. ☎ 7922.

#### Service My Hairy Crotch

Sexy, little, hairy bear with pure top energy wants to hook up with hungry oral expert for long, hot, verbal sessions. ☎ 7923.

#### Love Sucks

and so do I. If you're honest, masculine, HIV-, h/wt proportionate with a big fat dick, I'm a nice guy, attractive, albeit short, 50, and enjoy mutual cocksucking. ☎ 7924.

#### Cocksucker WM 57 HIV- ISO You

You play with my nipples. I jack-off sucking your cock and balls, nice and slow. Slim build, HIV-, 40-60, any race. Safe sex a must. ☎ 7925.

#### Boy Needs Hung Dad Daytime

In LTR, need hung dad for daytime fun. I'm 6', 31 yrs, 185, mod-hairy, trim beard, br/bm, good looking and hung, very oral—Be attractive and affectionate. ☎ 7927.

#### Fill My Hungry Manhole

Hot, GWM, 39, 5'11", bottom, w/light ass, big dick, shaved head, tattoos. Needs to service hot, nasty, well hung man. I love big dicks. Fill me up sir! ☎ 7928.

#### Hump My Butt with Big Dick

Muscular tight hard slender guy, 5'8", 170, 45, loves a quickie, day or night, you be in decent shape, weight proportionate, 30 to 50, hung! Oakland. Describe your self. ☎ 7929.

#### Dig Being Nude?

This 6'4", lanky, smooth, hung nudist, 187, 40, seeks sensual buddy for hikes and beaches. Love nature, sun, socks, and kissing. New new new to SF. ☎ 7931.

#### Hungry Butt

East Bay hairy bear, 35, bl/bl, gives hot ass to younger guys. Also versatile. Safe & clean. ☎ 7939.

#### In Search of Dog-Slave

For ownership, collaring, obedience training. Bondage, SM, etc. Prefer young, small, slim or muscular, short hair breed. ☎ 7932.

#### A1 Oral Service Delivered

SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to guys who dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. ☎ 7933.

#### Seeking Ideal Italian Lover

If you look like Tony Danza, Dan Cortese or Antonio Sabato Jr., then you're exactly what I'm looking for. ☎ 7934.

#### Love Cock?? I Do

I haven't met one I didn't like. Let's get together & introduce our dicks to each other for fondling, licking & JO. Discreet play w/day afternoons. 40's, 6', 168, stache, clean pleasant appearance. ☎ 7935.

#### Hot Handsome Marin GWM 35

Br/gr, masculine, hairy, HIV-, 5'8", 160#, seeks good looking fuck buddy/friend under 40. Versatile, Hispanic, Italian, uncult a plus. Today? ☎ 7936.

#### Lthr Dad & Boy ISO 3 & 4 Ways

Stocky, well-hung, needs expert cocksucker for CBT, sucking, fisting, BD, rimming, dildos, must be trim, hairy is a plus. No feds. Bi & straight curious welcome. ☎ 7868.

#### Suck Me off nr Castro

Black guy always horny, 31, 5'11", 190, stocky, well-hung, needs expert cocksucker for mom, evs, & nights, your place, older guy preferred. Regular basis OK. ☎ 7937.

#### Hairy Rider ISO Same

Stocky, muscular, bearded, very hairy, healthy POZ, mostly top, swappable if you are POZ, stocky, muscular, hairy, mostly bottom, into working out, leather, SOMA, cubs, ropes, and rough riding. ☎ 7938.

#### I Wanna Suck Your Butt

Castro late night horny Italian stud wants to bury my tongue up your hot clean butt. Look to eat ass for hours, kick back and let me eat you! ☎ 7940.

#### Asian Like Uncut Latino

Asian would like to meet horse hung Latino. Uncut for forekiss worship and oral sex and foreplay. ☎ 7941.

#### Linebacker Top Wanted

By tall, dark, masculine & handsome. U be big guy over 6'1", 200#, w/big tool, HIV- that likes excellent service & likes to sweat. Kick back or call the shots. ☎ 7942.

#### Blond Top Hung 8 and Thick!!!

I am a handsome, in shape, hairy chested boyish top with a goatie. You are a bottom who wants slow, intense, sex play. Give a call and let's get it in! ☎ 7943.

#### Raw Bareback Bottom

This hot, handsome, muscular, butch, HIV+ GBM, 34 yrs, 175#, 5'10", with a smooth, horny, bubble butt that likes it raw in shape, masculine, GWM/GLM, versatile tops, 30-55 yrs old. ☎ 7926.

#### This Fucker's a Bottoms Dream!

Hard body—enthusiastic-long lasting. Intuitive, 44, 5'9", 165#, average dick gives way above average performance. I love what I do. Call me. I'll come over. ☎ 7930.

#### The Tongue wants your Hot Butt

Rub across my booty mustache. Me: 6', 165, br/bl, 37yo, expert mouth. You: hot, trim & ready for a wild ride. ☎ 7944.

#### Bottom Kink

Hot sloppy white FF buthole ready for action seeking hot topman/versatile to explore/play together. ☎ 7945.

#### I Want It Everyday

Attractive middle Italian top seeks young, masculine boy to fuck on a regular basis. You should be lean, defined, submissive and eager. ☎ 7946.

## FETISHES

#### Unbuckle Yr Pants Drop Em & JO

Attr. GWM, 40's, 5'11", 165#, br/bl, beard, must, likes dropping my pants/unloaders women & JO. Jeans/khakis/lacks (whetits) all OK. While briefs/boxers—suits/uniforms A+. ☎ 7749.

#### Trainable and Ready

Under trained but willing submissive GWM bottom seeks sane but serious and demanding sadist. I'm slim, in shape, early 50's, HIV-, and you are any race. Experienced, and creative. ☎ 7750.

#### Daytime Asshole Eater!

Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 7948.

#### ISO Raunch Top

Bottom seeks dominant tops for degradation, humiliation, bondage & pain. WS & scat A+. Hairy, cigar smokers a plus. ☎ 7751.

#### Sneaker Sniffer! Bootlicker!!!!

Toe sucker! Mature, respectful deep throat expert will kneel to worship & service well hung men who know what they want!!! ☎ 7752.

#### Cock and Balls Need Stretching

Musculine, straight WM, 50's, seeking C&B torture. Shave them, bind them, whack them, wax them, make them ache for release before jerking me off and feeding me my own cum. ☎ 7753.

#### Scat and WS Buddies Wanted

GWM, 44, great body, looking for hot guys into scat and WS. Let's get dirty and get off. UB under 40, slim, trim and ready to play. ☎ 7754.

#### Recycle

Older WM. You: clean, healthy, beer drinker, big soft uncult cock. Me: suck crotch, you hose mouth. You: 45-55, WM, HM. No bottoms. ND. ☎ 7755.

#### Bondage

GWM, masculine, clean shaven, muscular, 5'11", 170, young 44, HIV-, seeks bondage play. Contract abduction scenarios, pleasure torture to mod. SM. Me: basically bottom, possible switch, safe sex only. ☎ 7756.

#### Rubber Play

Bearded Dad in SF, 60, 5'9", 150#. Loves slippery play in rubber chaps, jock, boots. Seeks masculine, in shape GWM, GBM, 35-50, NS/ND. ☎ 7757.

#### Perfect Hairy Butt

Looking for Uncle, Daddy or Doctor type bottoms to service 45 yr old scat top. ☎ 7758.

#### Slave/Dog Property Wanted

You think of yourself as "the best and the brightest" and question, at times, your Master's worthiness to force discipline pain and humiliation on you. Be GWM, under 35 and 5'10", slim, well-defined body and short-haired. ☎ 7759.

#### Butthole Action

Get your hole eaten in rim seat. Dildo play optional. Me: 46, 160, 5'11", masc. att. You: in shape, to 45, clean, hot, HIV-. No feds. ☎ 7857.

#### Glory Hole Gratification

Simple as an ATM. Insert cock in slot and receive service. Lobby open for service by appointment. Mission area, evenings & weekends. ☎ 7858.

#### Rim-A-Thon

Focused, devoted asshole worshippers sought to suck, eat hot hole on a rim chair. Yellow, liquid refreshment available, if desired. Hungry, thirsty, & serious piss only. Looks, age unimportant. ☎ 7859.

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# History with holes

by Jim Van Buskirk

*Club Verboten*, DCC Compact Classics; \$56

This four CD set is a quirky compilation "celebrating the music and performers of a suppressed culture which became an integral and indispensable part of the mainstream." While there is much to discover and/or rediscover among its 63 cuts, by trying to extend too far a reach, this set ultimately disappears.

Starting from the 1920s to the 1970s, *Verboten* is an eclectic collection of works by queer composers, performers or icons, including Gladys Bentley, Marlene Dietrich, Noel Coward, Judy Garland, Meg Christian, Cole Porter, Lorenz Hart, Sylvester, Stephen Sondheim, and many others. Among the highlights are Doris Day's unintentional anthem "Secret Love," Rod McKuen's bathetic "Ballad of the Sad Young Men," and Jim Bailey (as Barbra Streisand) belting "Don't Rain on My Parade."

The fourth CD includes symphonic works by Tchaikovsky,



Britten, Copland, Bernstein, John Cage, and Ned Rorem, but omits such obvious inclusions as Schubert, Lou Harrison and John Corigliano.

The 96-page illustrated booklet is poorly written, disorganized and unfocused. The documenta-

tion is incomplete: composer, artist and recording date are assiduously noted, but the date of the composition is missing. Lack of a discography and incomplete bibliographic references compound the frustration in a set seeking to document the heretofore undocumented.

This offering sounds suspiciously like an attempt to cash in on the market for "queer music" begun in 1977 with Stash Records' pioneering *AC/DC Blues*, which continued with mid-'90s offerings like Columbia's *Can't Help Lovin' That Man*, Pavilion Records' *Masculine Women and Feminine Men*, BMG's *Out Classics*, and CRI's *Gay American Composers*. There's some fascinating material here, certainly, and a fair amount of camp, but this compilation fails to do justice to the burgeoning documentation of lesbian and gay musical history. ▼

Jim Van Buskirk is program manager of the James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center at the San Francisco Public Library and co-author of the Lambda Literary Award-nominated *Gay by the Bay*.

## Out There

◀ page 35

ceeded to pontificate self-righteously about how the press does nothing but feed off "rumors, scandal and gossip," resulting, she said, in tragedies like Princess Di's death. "It's time for all of us to take responsibility," she declaimed melodramatically.

Ironically, this image of Madonna as a champion for the New Morality contrasts vividly with the Madonna that dragster Justin Bond encountered several weeks ago in LA, at the pop star's Hindu-themed birthday party at BoKaas, a swank Hollywood *boite* known for catering to Tinseltown celebs' special needs. Bond and compadre Jackie Beat were invited to the party by Madonna's brother Christopher Ciccone, who, after seeing Bond's Kiki show in New York, asked the dragster to play Kiki at Madonna's party.

As most of you know, the Kiki routine involves a besotted Bond weaving through the crowd to the front of the room, setting down a glass of hooch on a table, and then launching into an insane, over-the-top monologue about her pathetic life. Well, no sooner did Bond put her drink down on one of the tables when the person sitting there, rapper D'Angelo, kicked the dragster in the leg so hard she began to bleed.

This unpleasant encounter between rapper and dragster was made worse by Madonna's repeated whining from somewhere deep in the bowels of the dark room to "sing a happy song. I wanna hear a happy song," a refrain she repeated in increasingly infantile tones even after Bond implored her — via Kiki, of course — to "shut up." To make matters worse, the pop star began rudely talking over Bond's act, which, naturally, was a none-too-subtle invitation for her easily intimidated guests to follow suit. Later, says Bond, Ms. Ciccone could be heard prattling in baby talk to D'Angelo about "ignoring that scary drag queen."

Bond told us over the phone from New York that when asked

why he kicked her, D'Angelo said it was because Bond spilled a drink on him. But Bond denies spilling anything anywhere. "He looked at me with contempt the minute I laid eyes on him," said Bond. "He kicked me without provocation. It was almost like he'd been asked to do it deliberately."

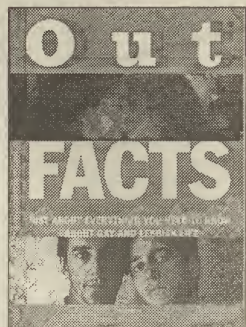
Needless to say, Bond was demoralized by this experience. "I thought it was going to be great performing for the Material Girl, but it just ended up being a nightmare. I don't respect her anymore. I used to think she was a creative genius. Now I just think she's a 40-year-old woman dressed up like a teenage slut."

### Critical drubbing

Though it took them months to do it, The New York Times finally got around this week to reviewing Daniel Harris' book *The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture*. Unfortunately for Harris, the notice is hardly glowing. While the reviewer, Gay New York author Gregory Chauncey, credits Harris for writing a book that poses serious questions about "gay men's loss of their radical edge and their supposed transformation into little more than a profitable niche market," he upbraids Harris for having little understanding of gay life before the gay liberation movement, thus calling into question Harris' conclusions about contemporary queer culture. He also criticizes Harris for "ignoring the racial, ethnic and regional diversity" of contemporary gay culture.

Chauncey's biggest qualm, though, is over the central theme of Harris' book: assimilation. "What troubles Harris most is that many younger gay men are so assimilated they identify more with their generation than with older gay men," Chauncey writes. "But to the extent this is true, it is an unexpected consequence of the gay movement's success: it's easier now for some young people to take their homosexuality and their acceptance for granted." Chauncey notes that older gays worked hard to create a world in which queers wouldn't have to be traumatized by their sexuality, but

the realization of this world "understandably creates nostalgia for old intensities and camaraderie. The argument that the cost of acceptance to gay men and lesbians has been their wholesale conformity to the norm ignores how much gay culture has changed the norm."



### Factoids

To commemorate its first decade in print, *Out* magazine has just published a charming "handbook" called *Out Facts*, which is full of clever quotes, lists, musings, photographs, quotes, prognostications and what-not reflecting what the editors call the "awesome energies, battles, passions, and achievements" of our queer communities. We found *Out Facts* quite interesting, in particular a list of influential culturemakers' favorite books written since 1969. Blanche McCrary Boyd, author of *The Revolution of Little Girls*, cites, among others, Lillian Faderman's *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers*; Dennis Cooper offered Kathy Acker's *Blood and Guts in High School* and Larry Clark's *Draper*; and Larry Kramer mentioned Randy Shilts' *And the Band Played On* in addition to John Boswell's *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*. We had to chuckle, though, at ubiquitous dragster RuPaul's list, which includes those monumentally priceless literary gems *Maybe the Moon*, by Armistead Maupin, and *Marianne Williamson's A Return to Love*. Why are we not surprised? ▼



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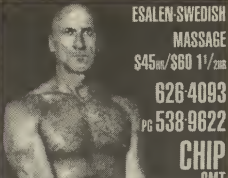
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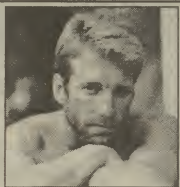
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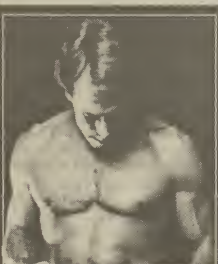
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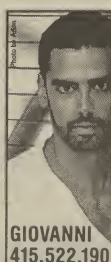


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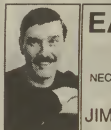


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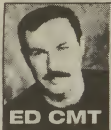
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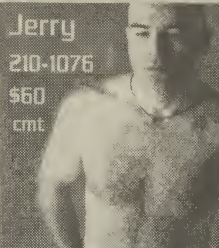


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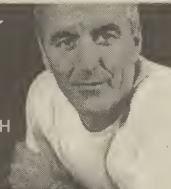
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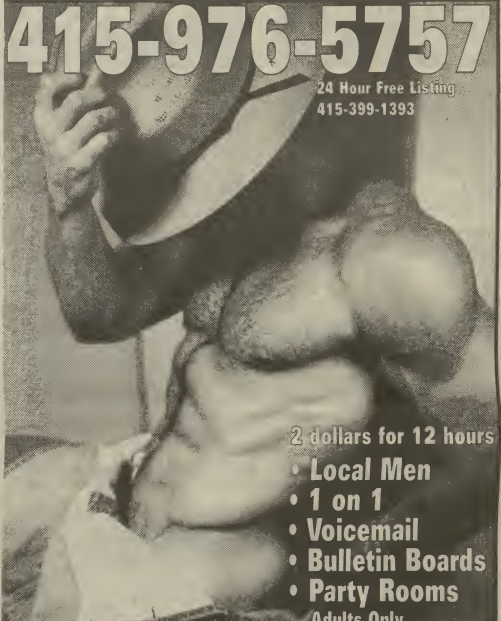
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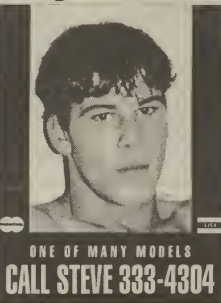
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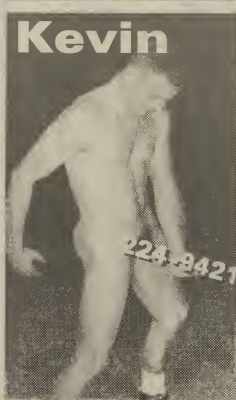
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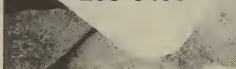


**Kevin**

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BUILD, 8" UNCUT



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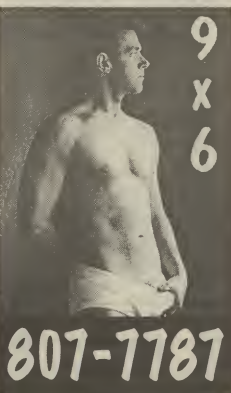
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6ft, Ger-Ital., 185 lbs, br hr, br eyes,  
tanned swimmer's build. Out only. Daniel  
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I'm great with beginners thru advanced.  
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**KINK MERCENARY**  
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Tall, lean, handsome w/8"  
Curved to fit your throat  
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Handsome & horny 28yo, 6', 175#'s  
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-long, & slow-my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned  
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19yo, 6', swimmer's build, 165#,  
7" cut, bl eyes, br hair, very cute.  
Provocative out of bed as well. Justin  
pgr 245-5310

**HOT BLOND 9X6**  
23, 6', 160#, bl/bl  
Tall, lean, big & hard - Call now  
Sexy & friendly-Jonathan 201-2066

**A MAN FOR YOUR  
DEEPEST FANTASY**  
I am a highly educated Italian  
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sexual-ready to join you for  
everything from intelligent talk  
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Explore my well stocked playroom  
B/D T/T C/B/T F/F-Most sane scenes OK  
Leather, Rubber, Boots, Electricity  
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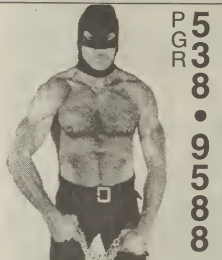
## PERSONALS

## MODELS/ESCORTS

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Friendly  
Beautiful  
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5'11"/175#  
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If You've Got

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## BISEXUAL YOUNG GREEK

25, 5'10, 165, offers to come over & keep you company. Rates vary. Oral expert! Christopher. Please Call 415-332-9530

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## TORSO PLAYGIRL

ITALIAN, IRISH, 6', 180,

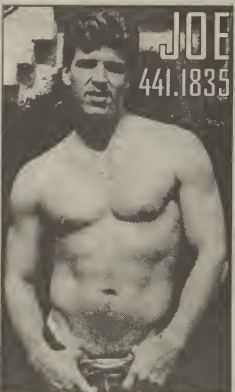
8", 5% BODY FAT

MICHAEL GRANITE

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Hot Texan  
Deep Throat

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Top. Instruction available. All

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BOTTOM  
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Goodlooking, Versatile,

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35yr, 5'9", 140#, 30" w, 9x7, No BS

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## HOT 29YO BOTTOM

Just loves to play. I can even bring

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7PM. Sat until 2PM. Out only. Call

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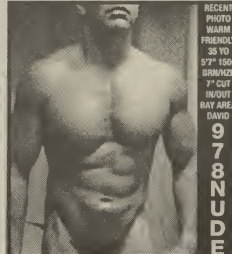
## EAT MORE MEAT!

Eat mine! 6', 25yr, 165lb, hung over

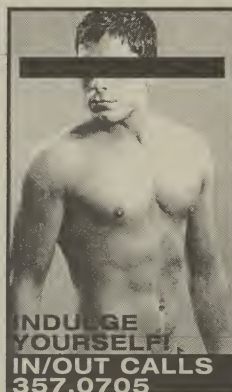
8", very handsome, masculine &

smooth. Get btwn my legs & taste it. I

know what you want. 289-6542



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FRIENDLY  
35 YO  
5'7" 160#  
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7" CUT  
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IN/OUT CALLS

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Karl 621-5016 noon-9 pm

## COMPLETE FOR YOUR

FANTASY

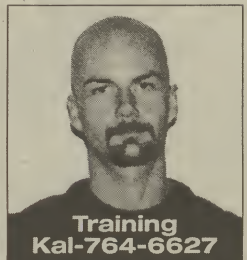
With young Asian Call Alan 245-9385



## CLARK

270-0919

5'9"  
160lb



Training

Kal-764-6627

## BLUE ITALIAN EYES

## 9 INCH STUD PORNSTAR

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5'7", 160 lbs, cute, nice body, In/Out

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24, 6'1", 145, 29" w, 8"

Hard natural build, friendly

Shaved in all the right places.

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Display advertising rates

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## RATES

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☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge  
on Visa and MasterCard.

## CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

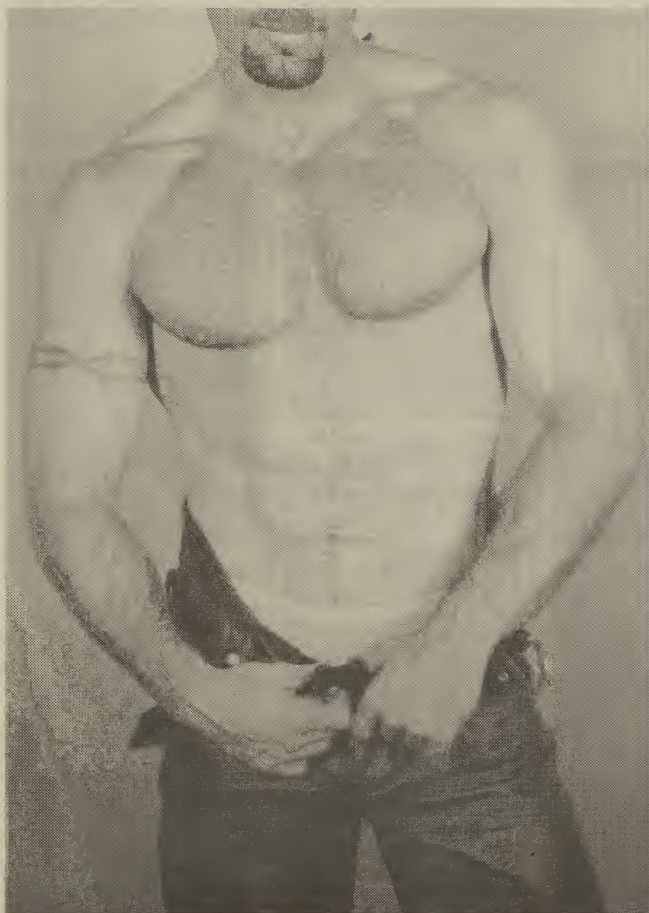
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